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Professor Dr. Ph. D. Werner Schiebeler

Angels as God's

Messengers and

People's helpers

Werner Schiebeler, diploma physicist, Professor Dr. Ph. D, born in Bremen in 1923. Studied physics in Göttingen and in 1955 graduated from the Max Planck Institute, Göttingen with his thesis on fluid dynamics. From 1955-1965 worked in the electrical industry at Standard-Elektrok-Lorenz AG in Pforzheim, seven years as head of a development department for electronic teletext technology. From 1965 lectured physics and electronics at the then State School of Engineering, now University of Applied Sciences, Ravensburg-Weingarten. Appointed professor in 1971 and retired in 1983. In addition to the subjects of natural-science and technology, he also taught para-psychology and para-psychophysics from 1969 onwards at regular special lectures at the University of Applied Sciences, Ravensburg-Weingarten and continued to do so the ensuing years.

The author published numerous articles in journals as well as brochure and four books on various para-psychological topics. In addition he also released a film about the "Paranormal healing methods in the Philippines" at the Institute of Scientific Films in Göttingen. He received the "Ernesto Bozzano Price" from the Associazione Italiana Scientifica Metaphysica in 1974 and the "1st Swiss Price" from the Swiss Foundation for Parapsychology in 1988.

Preface by the publisher

When entering the physical world every human being, that is to say, every child receives an eminent invisible companion at its side. This organisation of guardian angels is due to Christ's action. The guardian angel waits until its charge poses questions or asks for guidance – and leans to listen. The Bible's Exodus, 23: 20-23 states: *"I will send an angel ahead of you to protect you as you travel and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and obey him. Do not rebel against him, for I have sent him and he will not pardon such rebellion. But if you obey him and do everything I command, I will fight against all your enemies. My angel will go ahead of you and take you..."*

What stops us from listening to the voice of conscience? It can be for instance fears, or risking to live one's life, death itself or loneliness. One *talks a lot* about enlightenment instead of searching for the path to enlightenment within oneself. Life on Earth is like a corridor with two doors at one end. The word "Heaven" is written on one door, the other door is labelled "Lecture about Heaven". Most people prefer to go to the lecture.

Bad Salzuflen, June 2000

Foreword (By the Protestant Theologian, Pastor Dr. Erich Lubahn)

An interest in angels, God's serving spirits, has regained relevance in our times. The question in regards to angels, particularly within the Protestant arena, is still largely a taboo subject for scientific theology. – What is remarkable is that the publication presented here comes from a physicist and parapsychologist. Theologians and practising Christians with close ties to Church traditions will object to some of Professor Dr. Werner Schiebeler expositions. What has been refreshing for me is that fact that this theme was presented by an "unbiased" publisher.

I allow myself a few comments on behalf of critical readers that might be a help towards a correct understanding. Our religious tradition forbids the contact with departed, deceased people and this is reinforced by a couple of pointers in the Bible (Leviticus 19:31; 20:6). The author also indicates this. These biblical words are however often misunderstood. Moses exegetically means contact with those departed people that have separated themselves from God. When the Apostle Paul says in regards to the prophet Isaiah and Hosea: "Death is swallowed up in victory. Oh death, where is thy sting? Hell, where is your victory?" he doesn't talk about the death of people, but their separation from God. Jesus Christ overcame this separation through his salvation (See Corinthians 15: 55-58). Those that have not (yet) accepted this are, whether alive or deceased, dead in the eyes of God. Those that live with the living belief in Jesus Christ as their Lord already have eternal life and thereby death behind them. Jesus said this: "I am telling you the truth; whoever hears my words and believes in him who sent me has eternal life. He will not be judged, but has already passed from death to life (John 5:24).

The author clearly indicates in his writing that the contact with God's messengers, as verified by the Bible, has not stopped to this very day. One can find lots of attestation throughout the whole history of the Church where people were allowed to experience "subserving spirits" through their devotion to God (Hebrew 1:14). Professor Schiebeler encourages people through his writing to be aware of the service angels provide. But there is one important requirement for all those that reach towards the invisible world of spirit (13, P. 77 ff and P. 204 ff), namely to distinguish between the spirits. As Paul testifies (2 Corinthians 11:14) the devil can also disguise himself as an angel of light. But this danger should not stop people from taking advantage of the service good spirits provide 13, P. 65 ff).

May these words heartily thank Professor Schiebeler for the service he provides through his writings! Christians and also non-Christians will profit from this lecture. It will provide fresh access to a lost chapter for a lot of people.

1. The work of angels according to reports in the Bible

Most modern people no longer believe in God and in a heavenly realm. Things were completely different in the old days. Ever since human beings existed on Earth, they had the conviction that there is an otherworldly world and life after death and that communication with one's deceased relatives is possible. The concept of divine beings endowed with absolute power over terrestrial people developed very early. The belief in them and the moral concepts and cultural forms that developed from this are called religion.

Four religions gained particular importance, namely those that, as so-called monotheistic religions, revere the same God as universal creator and operator. They are, according to the timeframe of their appearance: The Mosaic religion, the Zarathustraic religion (or Mazdeism), Christendom and Islam. All four have one thing in common, namely that their founders (Moses, Zarathustra, Jesus Christ and Mohammed) mentioned the divine world from whence they received directives, indoctrinations and help via their direct connection with it. These did usually not eventuate directly and personally from God, but through mediators or God's messengers we call angels (Greek: *angelos* = *messenger*) that are non-terrestrial, heavenly beings that temporarily adopt human form. The followers of the founders of these religion receive the support of angels in the same fashion. Modern theology calls these views mythological ballast, something one should discard at once.

Research results provided by today's parapsychology on the other hand show that communicating with the world of the hereafter is actually possible. The first signs are there that this is even possible with technical equipment right up to television transmissions. This makes the core statements made by the four monotheistic religions in regards to one single, universal God with a heavenly host plausible and believable. This is why the now deceased Protestant theologian Professor Fritz Blanke from the University in Zurich stated that parapsychology opens up a new access to the biblical realities of angels and demons, that this does however not replace one's faith, but rather creates more space for it. This could make the people that have fallen for materialism and rationalism begin to doubt their existing philosophies and find their way back to religion and Christianity.

The Bible contains numerous accounts about the helpful intervention by angels in human affairs. A number of selected examples may verify this.

- 1) An angel appears in human form to the handmaid made pregnant by Abraham as she flees from Abraham's wife Sarai. He said to her Genesis 16:9):

He said, "Go back to her and be her slave." Then he said, "I will give you so many descendants that no one will be able to count them. You are going to have a son and you will name him Ishmael, because the Lord has heard your cry of distress."

- 2) Two angels came to Lot's town of Sodom and urged him to leave the city with his family as quickly as possible, as God was going to destroy it because of its sinfulness. (Genesis 19:16-17):

"Lot hesitated. The Lord however had pity on him; so the men took him, his wife and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. Then one of the angels said, "Run for your lives! Don't look back and don't stop in the valley. Run to the hills so that you won't be killed."

According to geological estimations, this event took place around 1900 BC, when an earthquake devastated the land due to volcanic activities and the earth's crust there sank below the level of the Dead Sea.

- 3) After having grappled with the Pharaoh for a long time, Moses led the Israelites from Egypt where they had lived in bondage as forced labourers, but they were quickly chased by the “Egyptian military in 600 Chariots, because the Pharaoh rued the fact that he had given the Israelites permission to leave. But the Israelite’s very comprehensive caravan was accompanied, guided and protected by God’s angels. An angel in a pillar of clouds (Exodus 13:21) went ahead of them to show them the way. This pillar of cloud turned into a pillar of fire at night, that is to say, the pillar was lit up. As the Israelites approached the so-called Sea of Reeds (Called Suez Canal these days) that they had to cross, the Egyptians had nearly caught up with them. The Bible reports about this dire situation in Exodus 14:19:

“God’s angel, who had gone ahead of the Israelites up to then, changed his position and followed them instead. The column of cloud therefore also disappeared from in front and took up the rear, so that it was positioned between the army of the Egyptian and the army of the Israelites. And it showed itself in the form of a cloud and darkness, whilst it lit up the night there. This stopped both armies from making antagonistic contact with one another through the night.”

God or his angels pushed the sea aside throughout the night with the help of a strong wind from the East and this dried up the seafloor. The Israelites could stride across the shallow firth during the night in this way. When the Egyptians tried to pursue the Israelites the following morning, their chariots made slow progress on the muddy surface. Moses raised his hand against the sea on God’s command. The strong wind abated and the water returned to its old position so that the Egyptians had no time to reach either one of the shores. People and horses drowned miserably and the Israelite were saved.

“When the Israelites saw the great power with which the Lord had defeated the Egyptians, they stood in awe of the lord and they had faith in the Lord and his servant Moses.” (Exodus 14:31)

- 1) Sarah, the only daughter of Raguels to Ekbatana in Media, had been married to seven men that the evil spirit Asmodeus sanctioned to die in a very short time (Tobias 3:8). Her father’s maids therefore giped her and incited her to commit suicide. She therefore asked God in a prayer to either let her die or to preserve her from any future abuse.

Tobit, a pious Jew from the tribe of Naphtali, had intermittently been in Assyrian captivity under King Shalmaneser (*Probably Shalmaneser V., 726 – 722 BC*). He had a son called Tobias. When Tobit held a feast at his place during Pentecost, he received the message that a dead man was lying in the marketplace. He immediately left the feast and buried this dead man after sundown. But because he had contaminated himself doing this, he slept outside next to the courtyard wall without covering his face. When he once opened his eyes, sparrows dropped their excrements into his eyes. This developed into corneal opacity (White spots, Tobias 2:9) and then to blindness. He therefore asked God in prayer to allow him to die. The prayer of both was heard in the presence of the glory of the great God (Tobias 3:16) and Raphael (= *God heals*), one of the seven Archangels, was dispatched to heal both of them, to scale away the white films from Tobit’s eyes and to give Sarah the daughter of Raguels in marriage to Tobias the son of Tobit and to bind Asmodeus the evil demon, because the Archangel said that Tobias was entitled to inherit the estate of Raguels through marriage.

Tobit had deposited ten silver talents with a man by the name of Gabael from Rages of Media on a journey to Media years ago. Tobit now remembered this. He gave his son Tibias the promissory note and authorised him to travel to Media (Tobias 5:1) and to collect this sum of money. He asked him to find a travel companion for this trip. Raphael the Archangel offered to accompany him, whereby Tobias didn’t know with whom he was really dealing with. Raphael pretended to

be a relative by the name of Asarja and said (Tobias 5, 6):

“I will travel with you. I know the way well. I lived with our brother Gabael.”

Tobias and Raphael now travelled together to Ecbatana after Tobit had given his blessing with the following words (Tobias 6:16):

“Go with this man! May God who dwells in heaven bless your way and may his angel accompany you!”

On the journey to Ecbatana, Tobias bathes in the Tigris. Whilst doing so he is attacked by a large fish. On Raphael’s behest he grabs it and throws it on the shore (Tobias 6:3). They fried and consumed the fish, but carefully retained the heart, gall and liver. Raphael said that one could drive away evil spirits with the gall and liver if one let them go up in smoke, ergo if one burned them. But the gall could be used to get rid of the white spots in people’s eyes. As they approached Ecbatana, Raphael said to Tobias that he would make sure that he would get Sarah as his wife. But to make sure that he wouldn’t suffer any disadvantage, he should drive away evil spirits with the heart and the liver of the fish.

Both travellers now visited the house of Raguels and are welcomed there by the daughter Sarah. Tobias received Sarah as his wife within a short time and Raphael collected the ten silver talents from Gabael with the promissory note. After a number of weeks had passed, Raphael and Tobias returned to Tobit who had been very worried about their extended absence. Both were cordially received and Tobias smeared the fish gall paste into his father’s eyes. The white spots disappeared from Tobit’s eyes soon after and he was able to see again.

In regards to the possible effect mechanism of the gall one has to say that the gall is a digestion secretion from the liver and that it serves to dissolve water insoluble fats and fatty acids via a fermentation process into water soluble components. The fish gall might have served the purpose of dissolving the upper, opaque layer of Tobit’s cornea through fermentation in this case, ergo acted like a solvent making the corneal opacity disappear. When it came to recompense Raphael he praised Tobias’s prayers, charity, compassion and sense of justice and said to him (Tobias 12:12):

“When you offered your prayers, you and your daughter-in-law, it was I who conveyed your prayers to the Holy One (ergo God). And I was also with you when you buried the dead. And when you did not hesitate in getting up to leave the feast in order to go and inter the dead, your act of love didn’t escape my observance, because I was with you. God has now sent me to heal you and your daughter-in-law Sarah. I am Raphael, one of the seven holy angels that bring the prayers of the saints up to the glory of the Holy one, because we have access to Him. – I did not come here as a personal expression of my love, but because God requested me to do so. Therefore praise Him forever. During all the time I was visible to you I did neither eat nor drink, because all you saw was an apparition. And now praise God, because I am going back to Him who has sent me, write down all that happened in a book.” When they stood up they no longer saw him.

- 1) The Archangel Gabriel (= *God has powerfully revealed Himself*), one of the seven that have access to God’s glory, is mentioned numerous times in the Bible. He appears for instance twice in the visions of the prophet Daniel (Daniel 8:16-27 and Daniel 9:21-27) who had been abducted to Babylon in 605 BC to become advisor at the court of King Nebuchadnezzar. During the first vision a paranormal human voice called across the river Ulai (Daniel 8:16-19):

“Gabriel, explain to him the meaning of what he saw.” Gabriel stood beside me and I was so terrified that I fell to the ground. He said to me: ‘Mortal man, understand the meaning. The vision has to do with the end of the world.’ While he was talking I fell to the ground unconscious. But he took hold of me, raised me to my feet and said: ‘I am showing you what the result of God’s anger will be. The vision refers to the

time of the end’.”

And some time later, when Daniel prayed to God on behalf of the Israelites, it states (Daniel 9:21):

“While I was praying, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the earlier vision, came flying down to where I was. It was the time for the evening sacrifice to be offered. He explained: ‘Daniel, I have come here to help you understand the prophecy’.”

Daniel describes the angel as a “man” in this example, ergo as having human form and he even received physical help from him when he picked him up off the ground.

1500 hundred years later, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to the priest Zacharias at the temple in Jerusalem. It states (Luke 1:11):

“An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar where the incense was burned. When Zacharias saw him he was alarmed and felt afraid.”

The angel must therefore have appeared very suddenly. He now prophesied Zacharias that his old wife Elisabeth would bear him a son and that he was to give him the name John (= God is merciful towards). The angel said the following about himself (Luke 1:19):

“I am Gabriel” the angels answered. “I stand in the presence of God who sent me to speak to you and tell you the good news.”

Six months after, Gabriel appeared to the Virgin Mary in Nazareth and proclaimed to her (Luke 1:30):

“Don’t be afraid, Mary. God has been gracious to you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son and you will name him Jesus.”

This is how the Archangel Gabriel entered history as the harbinger of good news and why the signal corps of Germany, Belgium, France and Italy elected him to be their patron saint. A statue of the Archangel stands in the entrance hall of the signal corps school of the German Federal Armed Forces in Feldafing near Lake Starnberger.

2) The Archangel Michael (= *who is like God?*) is the military commander of God’s heavenly hosts. The prophet Daniel mentions him first. In the third year that Cyrus was king of Persia (559 – 530 BC) a message was revealed to Daniel. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, he was standing on the banks of the mighty Tigris River. He looked up and saw someone who was wearing linen cloth and a belt of fine gold. His body shone like a jewel. His face was as bright as a flash of lightning and his eyes blazed like fire. His arms and legs shone like polished bronze and his voice sounded like the roar of a great crowd. He was the only one who saw the vision. The men who were with him did not see anything. We are therefore dealing with a paranormal event, a so-called *Vision*. When this man or angel, his name is not mentioned, speaks to Daniel he falls to the ground unconscious, but he is immediately raised up to his hands and knees. The angel explained to him (Daniel 10:12):

“Daniel, don’t be afraid. God has heard your prayers ever since the first day you decided to humble yourself in order to gain understanding. I have come in answer to your prayers. The angel prince of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief angels, came to help me because I had been left alone in Persia. I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the future. This vision is about the future.”

2. God' antagonist also has his angels

Not only Archangel Michael, but a guardian angel for people and nations is also mentioned here, in this case for King Cyrus and his kingdom of Persia. This guardian angel, who obviously stands in opposition to God, is one of Lucifer's or Satan's helpers. Archangel Michael and his troupes were themselves employed against Lucifer. The revelations of John therefore state (Revelations 12:7-9):

“Then war broke out in heaven and his angels fought against the dragon, who fought back with his angels, but the dragon was defeated and he and his angels were not allowed to stay in heaven any longer. The huge dragon was thrown out – that ancient serpent named Devil or Satan that deceived the whole world. He was thrown down to earth and all his angels with him.”

Because not only God, the creator of our world, has his angels as helpers, but God's antagonist who was once one of His Archangels also. His heavenly name was *Lucifer*. But the commotion he caused and his fall from God's grace turned him into Satan (*Hebrew: Santanas = enemy, antagonist*) and Devil (*Greek: Diabolos = slanderer*). This is why he was thrown out of heaven with all his followers whom he stirred up against God. Christ himself said (Luke 10:18):

“I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”

The Apostle Peter reports (2 Peter 2:4):

“God did not spare the angels who sinned, but threw them into hell, where they are kept chained in darkness, waiting for the Day of Judgment.”

And Jude, the brother of Jacob, reports in his letter (Verse 5):

“For even though you all know this, I want to remind you of how the Lord once rescued the people of Israel from Egypt, but afterwards destroyed those who did not believe. Remember the angels who did not stay within the limits of their proper authority, but abandoned their own dwelling place, they are bound with eternal chains in the darkness below, where God is keeping them for the great Day on which they will be condemned.”

The Devil is not a symbol of evil or of sin according to testimony in the Bible, but a non-terrestrial personality with great powers. He is the prince of this world (John 12:13; 16:11) and he has the power to instantly present all its riches and their delightfulness to tempt Christ. He can say to Christ:

“I will give you all this power and this wealth. It has all been handed over to me and I can give it to anyone I choose” (Luke 4:5).

Satan is a murderer right from the start (John 8:44), the father of lies, the prince of death, that is to say, the prince of the spiritually dead, ergo beings separated from God. He can also change his projected behaviour and external appearance. It is even possible for him to adopt the form of an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14) and his servants can appear wearing the mask of justice (Corinthians 11:15).

Satan's co-combatants and helpers are beings that are not made of flesh and blood, but powers and forces that rule the world of darkness and ply their trade as evil spirits in the world of heaven (Ephesians 6:12).

Satan has his followers here on Earth also. Christ said to the Jews who called themselves Abraham's children and see God as their Father (John 8:42):

“If God really were your Father you would love me, because I came from God and now I am here. I did not come on my own authority, but he sent me. Why do you not understand what I say? Is it because you cannot bear to listen to my message? You are the children of your father the Devil and you want to follow your father’s desires. From the very beginning he was a murderer and has never been on the side of truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie he is only doing what is natural to him, because he is a liar and the father of all lies.”

Satan can exert great influence on people. He or his helpers, his angels, lead people into temptation (1. Corinthians 7:5), appear as spoilers, can possess people, put people in chains for 18 years (Luke 13:15) and bring about the death of people (1. Corinthians 10:10), that is to say, bring about the separation from God, ergo a spiritual death. People have entered and are entering a covenant with Satan, the prince of darkness. The prophet Isaiah already warned the Jews in 730 BC about this with the following words (Isaiah 28:14):

“Now you arrogant men who rule here in Jerusalem over this people, listen to what the Lord is saying. You boast that you have made a treaty with death and reached an agreement with the world of the dead. You are certain that disaster will spare you when it comes, but you depend on lies and deceit to keep you safe. This now is what the Sovereign God says: I am placing in Zion a foundation that is firm and strong. In it I am putting a cornerstone on which are written the words “Faith that is also patient. Justice will be the measuring line for the foundation and honesty will be its plumb line. Hailstorms will sweep away all the lies you depend on and floods will destroy your security. The treaty you have made with death will be abolished and your agreement with the world of death will be cancelled.”

Moses had already received a brief from God (Leviticus 19:31):

“Do not go for advice to people who consult the spirits of the dead. If you do you will be ritually unclean. I am the Lord your God.”

And then (Leviticus 20:6):

“If anyone goes for advice to people to consult the spirits of the dead, I will turn against him and will no longer consider him one of my people.”

These admonitions have lost nothing of the pertinence even after 3,000 years and continue to apply in regards to communicating with the world of spirit that is removed and antagonistic towards God. But a lot of people enter into a solemn pact with the Devil and pray to him as their god in spite of this. They are called *Satanists*.

Satan’s might as an abettor of evil here on Earth and in the world of the hereafter is very great. But it isn’t unlimited. His original place in the hierarchy was below Christ, he was put in his place by Christ after Christ’s crucifixion on his way down to the realm of the dead and he had to release all those from his sphere of control that wanted to turn towards God again. Christ is (Colossians 1:15):

“Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God. He is the first-born son, superior to all created things. For through him God created everything in Heaven and on Earth, all seen and the unseen things, including spiritual powers, lords, rulers and authorities. God created the whole universe through him and for him. Christ existed before all things and in union with him all things have their proper place. He is the head of his body, the Church, he is the source of the body’s life. He is the first-born son, who was raised from the dead in order that he alone might have the first place in all things. For it was by God’s own decision that the son was in himself the full nature of God. Through the son, then, God decided to bring the whole universe back to himself. God made peace through his son’s death on the cross and so brought back to himself all things, both on Earth and in Heaven.”

The fateful actions of Lucifer (= Satan) who had fallen from grace and was expelled from heaven will not last forever, they will find an end when Christ (1. Corinthians 15:24):

“Then the end will come; Christ will overcome all spiritual rulers, authorities and powers, and will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father. For Christ must rule until God defeats all his enemies and puts them under his feet. The last enemy to be defeated will be death. For the scriptures say that God puts all things under his feet. It is clear of course that the words ‘all things’ do not include God himself, who puts all things under Christ. But when all things have been put under Christ’s rule, then he himself, the son, will place himself under God, who placed all things under him and God will rule completely over all.”

According to the Bible, Satan and his angels work here on Earth as well as in the world of the hereafter. They try to separate terrestrial people and also deceased people from God and to draw them into their domain. If they are not willing, they are exposed to torments. One that was exposed to attacks by Satan’s angels here on Earth was the Apostle Paul once he had decided to side with Christ. Next to his revelations from the divine world, he also suffered under the attacks by Satan’s vassals, something that many others had to endure according to him. Paul writes (2 Corinthians 12:6):

“If I wanted to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be telling the truth. But I will not boast, because I do not want anyone to have a higher opinion of me than he has as a result of what he has seen me do and heard me say. But I keep from being puffed up with pride because of the many wonderful things I saw, I was given a painful ailment, which acts as Satan’s messenger to beat me and keep me from being proud. Three times I prayed to the Lord about this and asked him to take it away. But his answer was: ‘My grace is all you need, for my power is strongest when you are weak’.”

Paul doesn’t actually go into details about how he was tormented, but it is absolutely possible that he was also physically attacked. Dramatic examples of this actually also happened in this century.

Modern theologians, influenced by David Friedrich Strauss (1808-1874) or Professor Rudolf Bultmann (1884-1976), find it impossible to believe that one of Satan’s angels could have literally attacked the Apostle Paul. One therefore branded him an epileptic or at least suffering from pathological physical attacks. His revelations are likewise mentioned in context with this and interpreted as pathological events. The instigators of this view very clearly said¹:

“We can summarily and irreconcilably dismiss all miracles, prophecies, stories about angels and demons and the like as simply impossible as they cannot be reconciled with the known universal laws of nature that control such events.”

And Bultmann wrote 116 years later²:

“One cannot use electric light and radios, and in cases of illness, take advantage of modern medicinal and clinical means and at the same time believe in the world of miracles and spirits of the New Testament. And those that believe that they can do this on a personal level must be clear that when they do so on behalf of their Christian beliefs, they make the present Christian proclamations incomprehensible and impossible.”

These modern day theologians, who explain everything as “mythical cipher”, never wanted to acknowledge that eminent scientists observed an overwhelming plurality of events that are akin to reports in the Bible.

Based on these research results, Professor Fritz Blanke (1900-1967), professor for Dogmas and

¹ David Friedrich Strauß in his introduction to “Das Leben Jesu, kritisch bearbeitet”, 1835.

² Rudolf Bultmann in “Kerygma und Mythos I”, Hamburg 1951.

Church History at the University in Zurich, arrives at a completely different finding. He writes (3):

“Theology based on words, so in vogue these days, would have to be partnered with a theology of dreams, visions, prophetic inspirations and angels, if one actually takes the Bible as gospel, that is to say, that the question of ‘to what degree can the supernatural abilities of human beings and to what degree can super-human beings serve as procurers of divine revelations’. – There are people that owe parapsychology a debt of gratitude for their inner progress. When people, immersed in materialism and rationalism, encountered the occult they began to doubt their existing view of the world, ergo their existing philosophy. And this doubt culminated in that they found their way back to religion and Christendom.

There are certainly people that get entangled in parapsychology and virtually use it as a substitute religion. But it doesn’t have to be like this. As mentioned before, there are people whose attention is once again drawn to God’s world via a detour through parapsychology and its secrets. I know some of them that have, animated by parapsychology, picked up the New Testament again to find that a lot of things within the biblical scripts made sense after all.

In my case I have to confess that knowledge gained from parapsychological facts opened a fresh access to the biblical realities of angels and demons. I am now less than ever prepared to throw the Bible’s concept that forces and powers exist between heaven and earth overboard as mythological ballast. Not that parapsychology replaced my faith, but the results of parapsychological research create room for one’s faith and this is why, when correctly understood, the young science of parapsychology represents a helpful bridge in regards to living a Christian existence. If we theologians want to really serve present day people, we have more reason than ever to take parapsychological research serious and to deal with it conscientiously.”

Those that still doubt whether the Apostle Paul’s account about the action of one of Satan’s angels can be taken literally, may consider that a lot of those that strive and fight on God’s behalf after him, have been exposed to similar attacks. I would like to give you the life of Johannes Baptista Maria Vianney (1786-1840), a priest in Ars (France), as an example. He was canonised by the Catholic Church after his demise for his selfless, pastoral work. He was however exposed to the most severe attacks by the demonic world of spirits, ergo Satan’s angels, during his terrestrial existence (28, P. 66; 7, P. 212). They consisted, amongst other things, of noisy spook apparitions in his flat, supposed to make sleeping at night impossible, and inner turmoil designed to drive him to distraction. And then there were also spiteful attacks by his fellow priests. Vianney had to put up with all of this for many years of his life.

3. Angel effect physical help

Getting back to the angels of the divine world. According to the Bible they are mediators and messengers between God and human beings. As helpers they often appear visibly and audibly in human form and they can even perform physical actions. Because when an angry high priest threw the Apostles in prison because of the miracles they performed after Christ’s death (Acts 5:19), they were set free by an angel. It states:

“But that night an angel of the Lord opened the prison gates and let the apostles out and said to them: ‘Go and stand in the temple and tell the people all about this new life’.”

Angels also take care of the dying. When the pious pass over, angels guide them to the place of glory, so depicted by Christ in the story about poor Lazarus, who was carried by angels to Abraham’s lap (Luke 16:22), that is to say, to a region near God where he was fine and where he was compensated for his miserable life on Earth. The rich person on the other hand suffered torments, because he had not listened to Moses and the prophets during his terrestrial life. But when a sinner

proselytises (Luke 15:10), great joy reigns amongst God's angels.

Next to these angels that appear in human form on Earth, the Bible also reports about other heavenly beings that stand at God's side and appear wherever God is personally present and reveals himself in all his glory. They are called *Cherubim* (singular *Cherub*) and in contrast to angels, appear as winged beings. They are supposed to have four wings, two of those are covering the body. The prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:5) describes them as they appear to him in a vision, virtually as mythical creatures with four faces each (Human face, lion's face, bull's face and eagle's face). These faces are probably there to make a statement about their characteristics and abilities. The prophet Isaiah reports in his inaugural vision (Isaiah 6:1) about "similarly natured" beings he calls "*Seraphs*". In contrast to a Cherubim they are supposed to have six wings and two of those are used to fly with. In his vision one of the Seraphs continuously shouted to the other the following words:

"Holy, holy, holy! The Lord almighty is holy! His glory fills the world."

When one reads, contemplates and not considers these descriptions as exclusively pious fantasy, one has to ask oneself whether similar things were not observed recently. One thing that has to be mentioned is that the religious popular belief holds the opinion that people have an otherworldly guardian angel or guardian spirit during their time on Earth. These angels or spirits try to protect their charge from harm by warning them and by sharpening their conscience, by comforting them in their hours of need and by sending them positive thoughts. But this is only possible when people are open to such influences and when they lead an accordingly decent life. People generally do not notice such influences. Impressive physical help is also provided in special cases when danger looms.

An expansion of the concept of biblical angels is required here. Whilst one initially understands angels to be beings from the higher regions of God's dominions, spirits that were never human beings here on Earth, today's terrestrial inhabitants entertain that one could also be dealing with deceased human beings that carry out their assignment on behalf of the divine world.

A Dutch doctor by the name of Moolenburgh heard a sermon in Leiden where a priest called angels a "*forgotten group*". This induced him to ask 400 of his patients whether they had ever had an encounter with angels. 31 of them answered this question with a yes (16, P. 22). What did these people have to say? (16, P 22):

"One woman told the doctor that she fell seriously ill after a miscarriage. At that time she suddenly had a feeling of being lifted up and whilst she prayed, she heard some wonderful music and a heavenly choir began to sing. Those that heard something like this will never forget it. These angelic choirs are well-known throughout history and the doctor is of the opinion that Bach comes very close with his passion music."

The doctor reports about another example (16, P. 23):

"The Germans are invading The Netherlands. Their trucks roll in long queues into the country. A pretty young girl rides on her bicycle in Limburg. One truck drives very close behind her and the soldiers begin to wave and whistle. She angrily turns away from them. The next truck deviates from its path and the driver tries to run this supercilious girl over at high speed. But just before the truck touched her, she and her bike are lifted up a number of meters and put down again to the side. The truck roars pass her. A bicycle-rider who was riding about 20 meters behind her was able to observe everything. He caught up with her and full of astonishment asked her how he could see something that was actually not possible? This event has been engraved in her memory down to the last detail, she even remembers the dress that she wore."

Doctor Moolenburgh reports further (16, P. 24):

“I heard a similar story from a man who just didn’t have time to avoid a speeding car, he was cleanly lifted off his bicycle and set down in the ditch. His bicycle was completely demolished by the car one second later. Nothing happened to him.

Choirs of angels, consoling hands, wonderful rescues. A young man and a young woman knew one another from the secret service. Secret services are often very cynical enterprises wherein the spirit atrophies and the hearts grow cold. In spite of their relatively young age, the hero and the heroine in this story had already turned into disillusioned people. They knew one another well, but they nurtured a deep seated hatred for one another.

I am not allowed to tell you how and who they worked for, I can only tell you that the whole affair took place in one of the Eastern Bloc nations and that she came from The Netherlands and he from an Eastern Bloc nation.

One day they both experienced a low point in their emotional life. An overwhelming feeling of desperation took control of them. Something happened right after an official meeting that they had to attend. They stood in the street when both of them were compelled by an extremely powerful urge to go to a cathedral in an East-European city. Once in the cathedral, both of them felt a powerful hand grabbing their necks and forcing them to give up their way of life. This story has a happy ending: They are now married and live in The Netherlands. There is something bright and radiant about both of them, like people that experienced hell and then realised that the Light is always more powerful.”

The described cases above only contain the effects of this extraordinary help and the recipients ascribed them to angel-like otherworldly entities, ergo beings that one could call guardian angels. They were however not actually seen. In the following report Dr. Moolenburgh reports a case where something was also observed optically (16, P. 27):

“One of my best friends told me that an angel suddenly climbed through a closed window as he was on the phone. It was a cloudy, shining apparition. This friend of mine said to me: ‘I now understand why angels are depicted with wings. It is their radiant aura.’ This angel said a few words to console him and then disappeared again. This was very important to him, because he feared for his life at that time.”

The following case describes how otherworldly protecting spirits visibly and physically palpable interfere during an acute life-threatening situation.

Dr. med. Bernhard Cyriax, born in Germany, lived in Cleveland, Ohio USA during the middle of the last century (eighteen hundreds). He was a professor at a medical university. Triggered by a paranormal event experienced by the Fox family (1848) in the village of Hydesville in the State of New York, modern spiritualism began to develop to a high degree. What is meant here is that attempts were made to contact the world of the hereafter via psychically gifted people at lots of locations in the USA and shortly after also in Europe. The strangest of para-physical apparitions cropped up, like the ones I described in my book “Zeugnis für die jenseitige Welt” (23). An embittered battle between its opponents and supporters about the genuineness of these apparitions was already in progress then. Dr. Cyriax belonged to the first mentioned to begin with. He saw spiritualism as a deception (4, P. 64) and he thought that it was about time that this fraud should be exposed in order to prevent its dissemination. He therefore visited spiritualistic meetings to do so. He started with the circle of a married couple by the name of Morrill (4, P. 67), where Mrs. Morrill was a good medium for physical phenomena and trance-transmissions. One allowed Dr. Cyriax to thoroughly look around the whole house and the room where the meetings took place and he found nothing that could have been used to bring about fraudulent apparitions.

In spite of his marked scepticism and caution, he observed quite astonishing telekinetic processes that caused him great wonderment. And besides, his deceased half-sister Amanda Cyriax announced her presence through the medium in writing. She was able to give accurate answers to some very detailed questions about her previous life (4, P. 71) and about her family background. To do this she utilised German words, something the American medium couldn't understand. This and other proclamations convinced Dr. Cyriax after a few meetings that no tricks, deceptions or stage magic could have been involved in the spiritualistic processes he observed. Furthermore, his own psychic abilities soon became noticeable. These had some particularly positive effects later when he often participated in materialisation sessions and eventually lead to a life-saving experience. At a moment of great danger, two phantoms were able to help him outside his meetings. Cyriax reports (4, P. 135):

"It was, if I remember correctly, shortly after the New Year in 1869 when I returned home in a terrible storm between 11pm and 12pm and went to bed. I don't know how long I had been sleeping when I suddenly felt my little dog licking my face, it whined anxiously and it tried to scratch the blanket off of me, well it tried to wake me up. I felt quite unwell, this felt like a heavy weight on my chest. I felt that something extraordinary, something damaging to me had entered. My head alone was so heavy that I was unable to get up and I lost consciousness.

I was suddenly lifted up and wrenched from my bed by two strong men who hauled me down the long corridor to an open window, they constantly jogged and shook me and finally led me to a water main where they held my head under a tap and allowed cold water to wash over me. I was completely without will and subjected myself to all these manipulations without resistance, even though I couldn't comprehend the meaning of all of this. I was then advised to drink some water and once I had done so, I had to vomit violently. The stupor I had been in finally lifted. I knew that the house was filled with smoke and gas and that I had been close to being asphyxiated.

I now looked at both men more closely and to my astonishment recognised that my protective spirits Hans Alexander from Alvensleben and Guillelmo Mazzarini had abled-bodily aided me in a fully materialised state. I now received information from them about what had taken place: As it was the norm with the Steward Stove utilised in those days, I had placed a number of large bituminous pieces of coal in the stove before going to bed and once they had started to burn relatively well, I poured a box full of little pieces of coal, sieved from the ash and wetted, into the stove until it was full and as I always did, I left the door open. The storm broke the iron cap in the chimney and it solidly closed the opening so that no gas or smoke could escape, it therefore had to fill the room. My dog, who sensed the danger, wanted to wake me up, but I was already no longer capable of awakening from my stupefaction and I would surely have been asphyxiated if my spirit friends had not made an effort by materialising and by physically dragging me into the fresh air.

My dog had run after us and when he saw me looking at him, he came and jumped up at me howling and whimpering. I took him into my arm and praised him for trying to save my life. He seemed to be well aware of the danger, because he whimpered and nestled close to me, he licked my face and hands. 'Go quickly to your room' said Hans Alexander 'and open the window, douse the fire and fetch your canary. He is lying benumbed at the bottom of his cage, but if you bring him out into the fresh air, he will recuperate'. I found the bird exactly as described, I hung the cage somewhere outside and he recuperated very soon.

I now suddenly experienced a severe chill and I became aware that I stood in a draft in a sodden shirt without any other clothing so I expressed my concerns that I might catch an illness. But my spirit visitors and lifesavers calmed me down by assuring me that I was completely under their influence and that they would arrest any adverse reaction of my body.

I did as requested and vigorously rubbed my whole body with a Turkish towel, changed into a dry shirt and went back to bed, they requested me to leave the window open in spite of the storm and the cold and after a few magnetic strokes I was soon asleep. Anyhow, they had managed to produce a severe reaction,

because when I woke up the next morning, I was sweating severely, but apart from feeling weak and somewhat dazed in my head, I felt quite well.

I hereby pass the description of the effects of this energy to my dear readers the way it has true and truly happened in January in 1869 at my flat at 130 Ontario St, Cleveland Ohio. I gave this description without embellishment, but also without leaving anything out and I leave it up to the readers to make their own judgment about it. One thing I am certain about is that these manifestations and the previously described facts are based on actual manifestations and were not produced as conjured up, plastic hallucinations by my psyche, because the smell of smoke and gas, the open window and my canary in another room observed the following day, as well as the wet shirt and the collapse cap on my chimney bore witness to it."

Next to further experiences and events, Dr. Cyriax also describes the following whereby a person living here on Earth has been spared from suffering great damage through the intervention by otherworldly entities. At the beginning of his spiritual activities, Dr. Cyriax was invited by the painter Lanning to a so-called developing circle. He was dealing with a group of participants that wanted to develop some of their own psychic abilities. Amongst the already advanced mediums was a Mrs. French. Cyriax reports about here (4, P. 82):

"Let us recall a highly curious, directly life-invasive event. During a meeting one afternoon, Mrs. French once again received a sudden message from the spirit of her daughter that made her get up and catch the next train to Philadelphia, because she had to prevent a conflagration at the hotel where she usually lodged when in town and that belonged to a very special friend of hers. She didn't know what she could do, but as per usual, she abided by the wishes of her spirit guidance and therefore didn't hesitate to depart immediately. The result showed that without her intervention, her friend would have lost house and home.

She arrived at 8pm and immediately informed the hotelier about her assignment without actually being able to provide details. She acted completely according to the inspirations she received from her spirit guides and she demanded to be shown around the hotel. During her passage through the various storeys, she stopped outside a small chamber that had been established under a set of stairs and indicated that this is where the fire was going to be lit. When by chance one of the servants walked across the yard, she indicated that this was the man that would commit the crime.

At around 11pm, Mrs. French, the hotelier and two policemen went to a chamber that was located directly opposite. This is where they remained in darkness and complete silence until just after midnight, when they heard somebody silently creep up the stairs and then opened the door. After a few minutes had passed, the medium indicated that it was time to act. The lights were switched on and both policemen jumped out of the chamber and grabbed the man as he was closing the door. It was indeed the servant that had been fired by the hotelier and he wanted to revenge himself for having been dismissed by starting a fire. He had filled a basket with wood shavings, poured petrol on it and placed it under the stairs, they were already well alight when they opened the door. As this part of the house contained the hotelier's flat and therefore was not frequented by many, this chap had calculated quite correctly that the fire could easily spread and that by the time it was discovered, help could not come quick enough to save the house.

How could the medium in Baltimore possible have knowledge about these processes? It wasn't reading somebody's thoughts, because the medium would have had to have been with the servant! We have a case of pre-cognition of future events here; but I naturally assume that the spirits that control Mrs. French had contact to her friend in Philadelphia through her and that they actually became aware of the preliminary preparations of the servant and now encouraged the medium to go to the location where this was going to take place and to prevent this crime from happening with her gift of clairvoyance."

The influence from an otherworldly, after-death region prevented a great calamity in the above mentioned case also.

The following case deals with an attempted suicide that was prevented at the last moment by interference from a different realm of existence. It is described by the clinical psychologist Heinz Hemling (9, P. 158). A patient by the name of Peter Gerloff told him in June 1988 that he had

received a bad report from his school in Karlsruhe 11 years ago when he was 14 years old. As both his parents were alcoholics and as there was always a strained atmosphere at home, he was afraid to go home with his bad report. He therefore decided to jump from one of the bridges across the river Rhine and to take his own life that way. It was winter and very cold and the river was in flood. It was midday and the bridge was usually full of traffic at this time of day. It was however completely deserted this time, no cars and no pedestrians. Mr. Gerloff reports:

“Everything was quiet, not even a bird was singing. I wasn’t really consciously aware of this to begin with. I climbed over the railing – and I rationally contemplated the whole situation, ergo whether I should go through with it. But the case was clear, I wanted to jump and practically drown. This wouldn’t have been all that hard because the water was cold as ice anyway. I wanted to let go. The moment I wanted to let go – I looked left and right – there is nobody there – one hand was already free and I was about to let go with the other, when somebody said out of the blue: ‘Stop, Peter! Come back! There is something you must do first. You still have one more assignment!’

This initially really shocked me! I was completely surprised. There was nobody on the bridge. I stood in the middle of the bridge. I then started to consider things: ‘Stop! Something is amiss here!’ And this is something that still puzzles me, namely whether this voice was an illusion or whether my anxiety told me that I was not ready? But I did indeed want to jump. Well, something I would almost exclude outright would be my subconscious. My feeling was that it had come from outside. I did indeed hear it! This was the eerie part about it! There was nobody around as far as the eyes could see and it was totally still, I did indeed hear this voice! I could however not explain to myself where it came from.”

His Guardian angel probably saved him from committing this imprudent act. A second suicide attempt 8 years later, with sleeping tablets, also failed.

In the last example from Dr. Moolenburgh, two guardian angels prevent the murder of a human being. He reports (16, P. 36):

“A baker lived in the working class area called ‘Den Helder’ at the turn of the century and he was known ‘The blessed Breet’. He cleaned up his bakery every Saturday evening, placed chairs in a circle and come Sunday morning held a meeting for people that were not in Church. The room was always filled to the rafters. He also conducted Sunday school at the bakery and his Christmas parties were famous.

‘Den Helder’ also had a red-light district at that time and it stemmed from the times when one could travel on a canal from ‘Den Helder’ directly to Amsterdam. Breet’s missionary work was a thorn in the eyes of pimps, because he had already lost a number of their prostitutes and they began to lose money.

When it came to visiting the ill, one could count on Breet day or night. Someone ringing the bell got him out of bed one night. He poked his head out of the window and saw a man standing there.

He said ‘Mr. Breet, a seriously ill person lies in bed at 24 Jansenstrasse and he requests your visit.’

“I will come’ said Breet, got dressed and went downstairs. The messengers had disappeared in the meantime.

In order to get to the specified address he had to cross a little bridge that spanned the canal. Once he arrived at number 24 he rang the bell. Everything remained quiet for a while. Once he had rung the bell a second time, an angry voice behind the door wanted to know what was going on. Breet explained his reasons for being there.

‘There is no patient here and do not need anybody’ the angry voice explained. Disappointed, Breet returned home again.

Twenty years later a man entered his shop. Breet stood behind the counter.

“Mr. Breet, I would like to talk to you” the visitor said. Breet said, ‘please come inside’. This man then said, ‘Do you remember being called to see an ill person in the Jansenstrasse about 20 years ago?’

‘Yes’ said Breet, ‘I remember, this is an experience that I will not forget any time soon’.

‘I was that man that came to you that night’ the visitor said. ‘I hated you so much that I arranged with a friend of mine to drown you. We lured you to an address at the end of a little bridge and we waited for you there in order to throw you into the water. But as you turned up with two companions we didn’t dare to do so. You had one companion on your right and one on your left.’

‘But no’ said Breet, ‘I was on my own the whole way’.

‘But my friend and I saw clearly that somebody accompanied you on either side’.

At that time, Breet’s bakery served as a centre for sermons and Sunday school and the narrator Mr. Buijsma conducted his Sunday school there. I talked to him myself. But even he didn’t know Breet personally, however he knew some of his family members and they told him this story. Besides, he also read about it in Mr. Breet’s autobiography booklet.

When I began my investigation I thought that the conclusions would be: ‘One was able to see angels in the past, but one is no longer able to see them nowadays’. But now that the investigation has come to a close the conclusion is: ‘Angels are seen at least as often as in the past, but nobody talks about them anymore’.

(16, P. 33) As I once again peruse all the 83 cases of encounters with angels, two things stand out: A great feeling of bliss, a feeling to have been strengthened and confirmed in one’s faith and a feeling of inner peace after an encounter. These feelings often remained for weeks and they remain in one’s memory after many a year. Whether an encounter with an angel was genuine can be assessed on hand of these feelings alone. An encounter with an angel is not a cool greeting in the street. It touches human beings to the core of their being.”

The guardian angel in the following case does not directly intervene with a person in distress, because the person concerned might not have been receptive, he therefore turns to a more receptive person. This reports stems from the Protestant Minister Dr. Erich Lubahn. He writes (13, P. 69):

“A colleague of mine told me that he stayed at a hotel in Bregenz (Lake Constance). ‘I was saying my evening prayers before turning in. That’s when I heard a voice; it summoned me to immediately go to a lighthouse at the end of a long boardwalk. This is where I would find a person in distress. I had my doubts, but I followed an inner urge just the same. The door to the lighthouse was open. I climbed the spiral staircase to the uppermost platform where I found a man standing on the railing facing the precipice. I just managed to grab him and save him from a calamity. He then proceeded to weep in my arms; this for about 30 minutes. I then took him with me to my hotel room. Once there, we talked for two hours about religion. – I stayed in contact with him. He devoted the rest of his life to Jesus. – What would have happened if I hadn’t listen to this voice? – I only became aware after that an angel must have talked to me.”

In the middle of the nineteenth century, a Dutch missionary couple named Van Asselt were protected from being assassinated by angels in a most impressive way. In 1856 Van Asselt was sent to the tribal area of the wild Batta tribe in Sumatra on behalf of the Rheinischen Mission and this without being able to understand their language. Two American missionaries who had visited there 20 year before had been killed and consumed by the Batta. Pastor Christoph Blumhardt senior, the reporter, writes (5, P. 126):

“Van Asselt always remembered the first two of the 20 years he spent in Sumatra (1856-1876) with dread. Things were so scary – after their arrival – also for his wife. They often felt that they were not just surrounded by hostile people, but also by the powers of darkness. They were sometimes overcome with an inexplicable, nameless fear during the night that they got up, knelt down and prayed in order to free themselves from the pressure and spell they were under. Later on they travelled a few hours further into the interior to a tribe that gave them a friendlier reception and they could build their own house there.

One day Van Asselt sat on the bench outside his house when a man approached him, he was from the hostile tribe amongst whom they had lived before. This man had a request, he asked Van Asselt to show him the guards he placed around his house for protection during the night. The missionary explained in vain that he only had a small shepherd boy and a small cook and that they were not suitable as guards. The Batta tribesman wasn't prepared to believe this and ask whether he could search the house. He looked into all the corners and even investigated the beds. After he had satisfied himself that the missionary had no guards with him, he told them: 'When you first came to us we were very angry and we decided to kill you and your wife. We actually went to your house, night after night, but every time we came, we always found a double row of guards with flashing weapons standing around your house. We didn't dare to attack them. We therefore went to see an assassin. (Amongst the Batta were a fraternity of murderers who would assassinate those that were pointed out to them for a fee.) The assassin called us cowards and said: 'I fear no God and no Devil, I will penetrate through the guards!'

We met on that evening. We kept back and allowed him to proceed on his own. But he returned after a very short time and said: 'No, I don't dare to do it, two rows of powerful men stand there very close together, shoulder to shoulder and their weapons shine like fire'. We then gave up the idea of killing you. But tell me now, where are your guards? Did you never see them? All of us saw them!' 'I entered the house' Van Asselt told us 'and I fetched a Bible, opened it and showed it to him and I said: 'See, this book is our great God's word and in it he states that he will protect us (Psalm 34:8) and shelter us! My wife and I strongly believe this and this is why we do not need to see the guards. But you do not believe and this is why the great God must show you the guards so that you also learn to believe!'

In the previously described cases, otherworldly beings helpfully intervened as guardian angels when people faced dangerous or even life-threatening situations without having been concretely beseeched to do so a priori. As a human being one should establish an inner connection with one's guardian angel during one's life on Earth so that one is actually allocated one, something that isn't common place, and that he can be present during dangerous situations. One can also ask God for help by praying to one's guardian angel.

With personal connections with the hereafter that serve the purpose of lending support to the unfortunate deceased in association with otherworldly helping spirits, the control spirit Stanislaus had this to say at a meeting on the 10th of January 1992 (26, P. 224):

"May everybody please remember over again during their life that they have a guardian angel that stands energetically at their side, like a higher, better ego. But one has to turn to him. He is certainly there, with every one of you. You probably know why I specifically indicate this now. There is one in your circle who specifically needs one now. – I thank you for your help. We will remain with you a little longer.

May God bless you! Greetings in the name of God!

Stanislaus."

The parapsychologist and writer Rudolf Passian (19, P. 260) depicts a case where help was purposely asked for via a person's guardian angel:

"A woman came to Mrs. Resi Passmoser (died 21. 2. 1961), a well-known sensitive in the fifties, and asked for advice in regards to the following matter: This married woman had a female friend, a waitress, who arrived at her place four months ago with the request of putting her up for a few days until she had got the new position she had applied for which also included accommodation. The married couple naturally accommodated this young woman. But she didn't get the hoped for position and therefore continued to stay with her hosts. Week after week passed, but she made no effort to depart and the hostess finally realised that her friend had entered into an intimate relationship with her husband. She also gradually took over the running of the whole household and her husband eventually gave the housekeeping allowance no longer to her, but to that friend of hers.

Nothing she did was no longer right from then on and she was quite boldly encouraged to find herself her own flat. This is why she confessed her grief to Mrs. Passmoser by saying: "I can no longer stand these circumstances. What am I to do? Should I stay or should I move? I don't know what to do".

Mrs. Passmoser knew this woman and she also knew that she was of good character and very pious. She said: 'I know that you have great trust in God so do the following: As from today and for the next nine days, ask your guardian angel, the guardian angel of your husband and the guardian angel of your friend to get together and to discuss what could be done in your case. Because the guardian angels know too well what is going on and what one has to do. Talk to them and asked them confidently in the name of the highest divine guidance for help so that the natural order is restored in your home. Then bless your husband, your female friend and your home with the sign of the cross, something that is very important, because the sign of the cross has a great effect, it keeps all that is negative away and it emits a particularly powerful energy. Then say a number of devout and concentrated Lord's Prayers. Once you have done so, you may no longer think about the whole affair and you cannot do anything else about it either, you must solely – without distress and fear, that is important, firmly believe that you will receive help!'

Resi Passmoser also suggested to this woman to repeat the words 'Christ is in me' in case she felt any unrest or doubt within herself, because the Power of Christ is present in all people of good will and all guardian angels were in Christ's service. She also promised this woman that she would also pray on her behalf in her own way. After she had promised to do everything exactly the way she was advised, she left appeased and consoled.

She returned after 11 days beaming with joy and the moment the door was opened for her, she called out: 'She has gone!' She then proceeded to tell her that on the ninth day, her female friend suddenly declared that evening in the presence of her husband: 'I will depart tomorrow! I no longer want to remain here. I just cannot bear to be here anymore!'

Her husband nearly fell off his chair and aghast asked her why she suddenly didn't like it here anymore? Whilst the wife wisely remained absolutely impassive during the ensuing conversation, the female friend resolutely explained that nobody had done her any harm, but she simply didn't want to remain here anymore, because she had become bored with everything. She left early the following day!

And so it came to pass. The wife then continued to say that she immediately and silently thanked God and the guardian angel for the wonderful help she had received. Once her friend had left the house, her husband apologised to her about his abominable behaviour and asked her to forgive him. His wife promised him that she would no longer dwell on this and intimated that her husband should show a little more trust in God so that the relationship between them could become as good as it ever was. And this is what happened again."

The following case also deals with a deliberate plea for assistance from guardian angels. The report stems from psychologist Gerd Gutemann, who applies himself in the field of help from angels. He writes (8, P. 15):

"Angels are allowed to intervene clearly and sometimes instantly recognisable in human affairs if people know about their existence, live a pious existence and if they appeal to Jesus Christ or their guardian angels directly when a need arises. When for instance drivers of cars and bicycles or hikers ask for protection against accidents, injuries or mishaps before they undertake a journey, angels or positive spirits may intervene in such a way that excludes coincidence as an explanation.

During a weekend seminar in Bad Tölz during the winter of 1985 a lot of snow fell on the first day and the cars in the carpark were covered with 80cm of fresh snow. The theme of the seminar was: 'The power of thought, the power of prayer'. At the end of the first day I reminded the participants that it might be appropriate to specifically ask for protection before the drive home because of the prevailing road conditions.

The following morning, one woman told us what she experienced on the way home: 'As I drove along a winding road through a forest I found that the road was smooth as ice. When I drove around a bend I saw that a number of cars had collided with one another directly after the bend and that they blocked my path. Even though I drove at a sensible pace, the breaking distance required to stop the car was not long enough.

As I slammed on the brakes the skidding car no longer reacted to my endeavours to drive around the cars involved in the accident.

At this very moment an invisible force pulled my hands of the steering wheel and my foot of the brake pedal. I could not resist this invisible force! The steering wheel then turned all by itself and we passed the other cars with incredible precision without even sustaining a scratch!’

The daughter sitting next to the mother found that her head was forcibly turned towards her mother and this allowed her to also see how the steering wheel moved on its own accord. The husband sitting in the back of the car knew nothing about this and after the near miss, praised his wife for her incredible reaction! His usual rational view of the world was shaken to the core when he heard what had really happened back there.”

A comparable example was told to me by a Mr. Norman M. born in 1975 from H. in the Allgäu. I have known his parents and therefore also him personally for many years. Mr. M. visited a suburb of the city of W. around the 1st of December 1995, a location 5km from where he lived in H. There was snow on the ground and it was very cold. – 10 degrees Celsius. When Mr. M. wanted to return home at around 11 o’clock at night he found that all the windows of his car, a Peugeot 405, were frozen over. He began to scratch the ice from his windscreen as best as he could and he hoped that most of the ice would be melted away by the heating system of the car before he had to turn from the suburb onto the main road. He thought after that to drive with insufficient visibility was a very irrational to do. The width of the lane was also limited, because a snowplough had pushed the snow to the side of the road.

After a short straight stretch he had to turn right into a side street. As he approached the curve, the lights on the ceiling of his car suddenly turned on. This shocked him very much and he immediately stopped. After he had switched off the ceiling light switch situated next to a rocker switch and wanted to proceed, he only then noticed that he had stopped immediately in front of a car parked on the right hand side just around the corner. Mr. M. had not noticed this unlit, dark-coloured vehicle before. If the ceiling light had not been switched on by somebody by mechanically flicking the rocker switch next to the one that operates the sunroof, Mr. M. would have ploughed into the parked car. Due to the bad visibility his speed was at 30km/h, indeed very slow, but considerable damage to the car would certainly have been the result. Mr. M. is not certain whether he flicked the light switch himself or even whether he can indeed verify the whole situation. Somebody else must have been more alert than Mr. M. in his imprudence. This other entity did not just pay attention, it could also intervene with a helping hand. And somebody like that is called guardian angel.

Help in traffic by an otherworldly power was also experienced by a doctor and reverent by the name of Dr. med. Inger Magnusson whom I personally know. She reports in the “Allgemeinen Zeitung für Parapsychologie” Issue 3/1981, P. 159:

“It was in September 1980. I sat alone in my car and drove through Hamburg. I was tired and I drove relatively fast. The road I travelled on joint a main road at an acute angle. I mean to say that I must have looked to the left to see whether a car was approaching kind of behind me, but I saw nothing. So I proceeded.

At that very moment I received a blow to both of my forearms. (As I naturally sat on the left side in the car, it seemed that it had come from outside the vehicle) The steering wheel was wrenched to the right. I cannot say whether this happened because of my startled jerking or whether the steering wheel was influenced from outside. A large, black limousine dashed past me on my left at this exact moment at great speed. There would have been a terrible collision if somebody had not interfered. – The pain in my forearms remained for some minutes. It was certainly not my imagination.”

The otherworldly attendant of a human being must not always be a being of light. We already heard that God's antagonist here on this Earth also has his helpers and angels. They look for victims amongst people with a corresponding lifestyle.

It is quite conceivable that in the following event such an entity came from the dark regions. This experience was told to me by an elderly gentleman (born 1909), whom I have personally known for around 20 years, but who died in the meantime (1994). He published his reports in 1967 in a magazine (29) and he personally assured me that this event took place exactly as printed. The writer talks about seeing an "angel of death", but leaves the question of where he came from open. The reader will have to decide for themselves which side this apparition came from. The report goes (29):

"The angel of death at my father's bedside. An eerie experience, one that I can never forget. – Were there coherencies between this strange apparition and my father's membership of a secret lodge? – My father died on the 3rd of September 1920 in Zweibrücken, Etzelweg 47, my mother had died two years prior. My father and I lived together after my mother's death. I slept in my mother's bed, ergo next to my father's bed.

It was about one year before my father's death, the end of August or early September, when I woke up one morning at around 6am. The room was already well lit. I just caught my father walking past the foot of my bed opening a window. He suffered from asthma and he was a 70 years old man. He had just suffered another one of his severe asthma attacks. They were no longer something scary to me.

As I was looking at my father walking past, I espied from the corner of my eyes that somebody else was in the room. I quickly turned my head in the direction of my father's bed and I saw an entity standing there that was, to my horror, not a human being. It was a small, black figure of a young lad in a black cape. I have never ever seen such a deep black before. The head had the structure of a skull. The face on the other hand was alive, marked by sharp features. Its teeth glowed with a yellow-red brilliance whereby every upper and lower tooth was clearly distinguishable. I felt like I was paralysed, I couldn't speak and I felt all of my energy drain from me. This figure wore a kind of cap on its head and its decoration consisted of lots of triangles. At the front of this cap was something like a diadem and it was structured like two intertwining snakes or a girl's thick plait. The headgear protruded some distance on either side and it was slightly bend, like the sickle of the Moon.

My father past this figure a number of times and every time he did, he was bathed in a yellow-red bundle of rays. Every time my father went back to bed I sat up and plucked up my courage, but I couldn't speak. I could clearly see the folds of this figure's cape half covering my father's bedside table and how they touched the clock. The garment itself was wonderfully folded like marble and it draped the bottom of the bed like a cloud. I would have dearly like to have run out the door and call my neighbours, but this figure stood about two metres from the door and I was terribly afraid. I observed the whole thing for about half an hour. A thought suddenly entered my mind, father was about to die and this apparition was an omen. Filled with fear I pulled the covers over me and remained like that for some time. When I looked from under the covers after a while I found that this figure had disappeared.

Dripping with sweat I ran to school to tell my fellow students and my teachers about my experience, but they just laughed at me.

When I returned home, my father, whom I had not yet told about my experience, told me that he had something to tell me, namely that he would soon die. He had seen something this morning in our room that he was not prepared to tell me about because he didn't want to frighten me. This is when I told him everything that I had seen. All he said was: 'Well, this was the angel of death'.

But now comes the interesting part: The spot on the wall where this figure had stood was coloured a bluish black and one could see an imprint of the whole figure across the clock exactly the way I had seen this apparition in the early morning hour. But the outline of the lower body was now turned towards the door and the garment seemed to flow, like an angel in flight. The imprint showed the whole face as if the figure was about to turn its head. Even though the rest of the form could be clearly seen, the ornaments of the cap were blurred. The imprint was three-dimensional, ergo as if alive.

My father and I never mentioned this incident again. Nobody was allowed to enter the bedroom from then on. The wallpaper was later torn down. But I thought about this picture for a long time.

My father passed away one year later. A complete stranger suddenly approached me after the funeral service and enquired about my wellbeing. He wanted to know exact details about the last days of my father's life. I told him about our experience with the angel of death on that morning. I was afraid that he would ridicule me, but all he said was: 'I not only believe you, but I am convinced that you saw all of this. I knew your father better than even you. Your father was a member of a secret lodge'.

This experience is still so powerfully awake in my mind that every time I visit a dying person I first look at the walls to see whether the angel of death left his impression there also. But I never encountered him or his image ever again.

W. Thielefeld in W."

4. Angels welcome the deceased

People require help from their guardian angel to a special degree during the process of dying or when they are in a life-threatening situation very close to death but then do not die after all. One has to assume that such people make corresponding observations now and again and that these are then told to some trustworthy person. One calls these cases "near-death experiences". They have been amply published during the last decades by doctors, psychiatrist, psychologists and hospital staff (2; 8; 9; 11; 12; 15; 18; 21). The well-known death researcher Dr. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross writes in her preface to Dr. Raymond Moody's book "Life after Death" about this theme (15, P. 10):

"All of these patients had the same experience, namely of having been extricated from their physical, body envelope and they all had a deep feeling of peace and wholeness. Most of them perceived another person that aided them with their transition to another plane of existence. Most of them were welcomed by previously deceased people, people they had been closed to or by a religious character that played an important role in their life and that naturally complied with their own religious convictions."

Elisabeth Kübler-Ross writes about the process of one's final demise in her own book "On Life after Death" (11, P. 76):

"After we have been welcomed by our otherworldly relatives and friends and also our spirit guides and guardian angels, we proceed through a symbolic transition that is often described as a kind of tunnel. Some express this transition as a river, whilst others express it as a gate, all according to each individual's symbolic significance."

A few examples should clarify this:

The Protestant minister Eucharius Kündig from Basel delineates the following occurrence. He specifically devoted his time to the care of the sick and the dying and it was his experience that dying children sometimes perceive more than the adults standing around them. He describes (12, P. 69) the seven months long suffering from strong pains of a ten year old girl sick in bed. During the course of her illness she very much turned to prayers and the New Testament. Kündig describes the end of her suffering as follows:

"On the morning of the day of her death, whilst slumbering softly, she sang the song: 'Jesus accepts the sinners'. When she had finished the song she woke up and smilingly asked: 'Did I sing?' When this was confirmed, she replied with an ineffable cheeriness: 'Angels came to me and they said that they wanted to sing the song: 'Jesus accepts the sinners' – and I said: 'I want to sing with you'. The dear child softly passed away that evening."

The two psychologists Dr. Haraldson and Dr. Osis collected a multitude of paranormal experiences from the dying from all over the world and they published them in the book “Death, a new beginning” 1978 (17). With the help of a questionnaire, they asked doctors and nursing staff during 1959-1960 about their observations around deathbeds. Osis received back 640 questionnaires and they were based on observations of 35,540 dying patients (17, P. 28 and 38). Amongst them, 1318 patients perceived apparitions of figures that the nursing staff could not see.

A second questionnaire was distributed during 1961-1964 amongst members of the medical staff at hospitals. This produced 1004 answers and they were based on the observations of 50,000 dying patients. There were once again a lot of reports, 216 actually, where patients were visited by deceased relatives or by entities from the religious sector who had come to assist them during their transition to another form of existence and to collect them in the world of the hereafter.

Two examples thereto (17, P. 198):

“Hearing music seems to be a harmonious experience in all cases. Cheeriness and harmony have a surprising effect on patients, something that is also apparent in the case of the 62 years old wife of an actor who was tormented by a cancer in its advanced state. She had a very strange look on her face. I fluffed up her pillows whereby I slightly raised her back. She had a very lucid moment. I left the room. Her eyes were open when I came back. She had a specific look in her eyes, but was unaware of my presence, she smiled, lifted her right arm as if to grasp something and calmed down again. She seemed to be somewhere else; I cannot explain it – abstracted to another world. I talked to her, but she didn’t answer. She smiled even more radiant, deeply affected by the whole thing.”

(17, P. 55):

“A nurse, baptised in the Christian faith, told us about a case where a physical (psycho-kinetic) effect took place. The apparition concerned is called an ‘angel’ here. The patient was a man aged between forty and fifty years and he suffered from phthisis (tuberculosis of the lungs). As he was a close friend of her family, the nurse had known him for many years.

He had not received any sedatives and was therefore fully conscious, he only had a slight fever. He was a relatively religious man and he believed in life after death. We expected him to die and this was probably the case, because he asked us to pray for him. The room he was in had a flight of stairs that led to the second floor. He suddenly called out: ‘See, the angels are coming down the stairs! The glass has fallen down and is now broken!’ All of us in the room looked at the flight of stairs and we saw a glass on one of its steps. Whilst we were still looking we saw how the glass shattered into a million pieces without there being a recognisable cause for this to happen. It didn’t fall – it simply exploded. We naturally didn’t see the angels. A happy and peaceful expression appeared on the patient’s face and the next moment he was gone. The cheerful, peaceful expression on his face even remained after he had died.”

An English nurse called Joy Snell, who lived during the turn of the last century (1900), told about the service of angels on Earth and about life in another sphere of existence beyond our terrestrial world in a book. She wrote the book because angels told her that rare psychic gifts had been bestowed on her and that she was allowed to see things that were kept hidden from most people by far until after their demise. This is why she should tell others about a lot of things that have been unveiled to her. She gained the gift of clairvoyance from a certain point in time, that is to say, she could perceive entities from a different sphere of existence. She reports to begin with (27, P. 12):

“I became intimately conversant with death at the hospital. I saw many die that gladly welcomed death as the deliverer from pain, distress, exhaustion and sorrow, as the opener of the door through which all souls, freed from all physical ailments, must pass to enter a greater, freer plane of existence where the deepest yearnings of their soul will be fulfilled. I saw others die that were, overwhelmed by physical weakness or mental tiredness, expecting death seemingly bereft of hope or fear and extremely indifferent to what was about to follow.

I observed deaths that were quiet and peaceful and provided the equally good aspect of watching a baby go to sleep. And then I saw others where the physical death throes lasted to the last breath and this was terrible to behold. Even more terrible were the dying processes of those that saw the end approaching and were then gripped by fear and horror about what was about to happen to them so that they held on to life by begging and praying to be allowed to continue to live. Such scenes were fortunately a rarity. Most people that I observed entered a state of anaesthesia that made it impossible for them to feel or to express any kind of emotion.

I often observed that the dying, independent of their physical or mental state, perceived somebody immediately before their demise that was not amongst those in attendance, somebody those in attendance couldn't see. I saw how a woman that had been lying unconscious for hours suddenly open her eyes with a pleased surprise and stretched out her hands as if to grasp invisible hands to then breathe her last with a sigh of relief. I saw how a man, doubled over with pain, focused his eyes on a spot in the room with an expression of cheery recognition, a spot that simply represented an empty space for those standing around, whereby he happily greeted someone by name, before taking his last breath."

Joy Snell reports a few pages further down (27, P. 15):

"About six months after my commencing my service at the hospital it was revealed to me that the dying really saw those that came from the realm of the spirit in order to greet them before their transition to a different form of existence. I received the first visible evidence when L. died, she was a sweet girl of 17 years and she was a friend of mine. She had fallen prey to cachexia. She didn't suffer any pain, but her inner fatigue, stemming from her great weakness and decrepitude, affected her severely and she was yearning for the end. Just before the end came I noticed two figures standing on either side of the bed. I never saw them approach, they already stood near the bed when I noticed them and I saw them as clearly as I saw all the others present in the room. I always call these beings angels from a different world in my imagination and I will continue to use that term from now on.

I realised that they were two close female friends of the patient who had died the year before at the same age. Just before they appeared the dying girl said: 'It has become so dark that I cannot see anything'. But she recognised the two immediately. A lovely smile appeared on her face. She stretched her hands towards them and with a joyous voice called out: 'Oh, you have come to collect me! I am pleased, because I am so tired'. As she extended her hands towards them, each of the angels held one. Their faces were luminescent and the face of the dying girl smiled radiantly, because she was about to find the rest she craved for. She didn't say anything else, but held her hands, now held by the angels, stretched out for about one minute longer and she continued to look at them with radiant eyes and a smile on her face. The father, mother and brother who were requested to be there when the end was near, started to cry bitterly when they realised that she was about to leave them forever. A request rose from my heart, namely that they could to see what saw, but they couldn't.

The angels seemed to let go of her hands, because they fell back onto the bed. A sigh, like by somebody that happily succumbs to sleep, escaped her lips and she was, as the world likes to say, dead. But the mild smile that appeared on her face when she recognised the angels, remained. The angels remained at the bedside until the spirit form had formed above the dead body. They then stood up and remained next to her for a few moments, until she was their equal. Where there had only been two before, three angels then left the room."

(27, P. 32):

"Amongst all the numerous deaths I was able to witness I found that the one of Mrs. L. represents the most striking and beautiful example of the triumph of faith over the 'grim terror' called death. It remains one of the most precious experiences of my time as a nurse. Mrs. L. had been a famous singer and requests to hear her gift of singing from welfare institutions never fell on deaf ears. She was a good and extremely amiable woman. She had been afflicted by an inner illness that was proclaimed as incurable. I had seen the dark figure at the end of her bed and I knew that the end was near.

She had been so weak and exhausted for the last 24 hours that she could hardly whisper and she was certainly unable to sit up in bed on her own. Two angels became visible and they stood on either side of

the bed and I knew that they had come to guide her transfigured soul, who would soon adopt a new form that was different from her emaciated body, to that sphere where peace and joy endure and where suffering is unknown.

She suddenly opened her beautiful eyes. She gave no indication that she had perceived the angels; but when she sat up in bed, her face radiated with a joy that was not from this earth and she sang from beginning to end that majestic chorale: 'O bleibe im Herrn!' (Oh, remain with the Lord!?) Her voice rang out as clear and strong as in the past, when hundreds had listened enraptured in concert halls.

Events take place on Earth – and this is good to know – that even please the angels. And this was one of them. Because the radiant faces of the two next to the bed glowed with hallow delight as they watched and listened to the singer who was soon to join the heavenly host.

When the song had come to an end she slumped back on her bed and died. I then witnessed her birth to a deathless life and her departure as an angel in company of the two other angels to a place where one will always find peace in the Lord."

5. Angels help ill people

Otherworldly beings that Joy Snell calls angels, do not just make an appearance when people die, but also appear to those still living. The nurse reports (27, P. 18):

"Not only doctors and nurses look after the sick. Angels also look after them. And this was revealed to me at the hospital. One night I was sitting at a table in the middle of the infirmary on night duties, writing by the light of a shaded lamp. The few lights still burning were dimmed. When I looked up from the paper I was writing on, I saw a figure move at the end of the long and sparsely lit room. I thought that it was a patient that had gotten out of bed; but when I approached her I saw that it wasn't a patient, but an angel. This figure was tall and slim, its facial features were those of a middle aged woman.

I was already quite familiar with the sudden appearance of these radiant visitor from another world at that time and this meant that I wasn't frightened or surprised, even though it happened unexpectedly; I stood still and observed her. She went to three or four beds, stopped at each for a short time and placed her right hand on the heads of the patients lying there.

For as long as I worked at the hospital hardly a day elapsed without me seeing an angel attend to the infirm. But I saw them most often during night duties, because the vitality of those that wrestle with an illness is at its lowest during the dark hours, particularly the hours that precede the dawn; this is when they need something that invigorates their vitality and eases their pain the most. Soon after I had seen them for the first time it became clear to me that they were endowed with energies that could physically benefit the patients and this is why I began to call them healing angels in my mind.

I was always grateful when I saw them flit around amongst the patients to lay a hand on the suffering here and there and particularly at night, when I was usually the only nurse on the ward, because I knew that the recipient of this care would gain benefits from it, even though they were completely unaware of any of this. Patient often told me after being treated like that: 'Oh nurse, I feel so much better this morning because I had a refreshing sleep'.

Patients of whom I knew that they had been looked after by a healing angel during the night sometimes told me that they heard enchanting music in their beautiful dreams. I would have dearly like to have known whether the melodies of this heavenly music was the same that I often hear myself. But apparently none of them ever saw the angel that effected an improvement in them, something they were very grateful for.

Their healing power were not just dished out to the patients whilst they were asleep. I have often seen that when a patient suffered to such a degree where they wailed and moaned, a hand was placed on their forehead. Free from pain, the patient fell into a peaceful asleep soon after to later wake up in a much improved state. I found quite often that after a patient had been visited by a healing angel their pulse beat regularly and their temperature had normalised.

As incredible as this may sound, healing angels often helped me when I attended a patient; sometimes by

guiding my hand; other times they helped me move or raise a heavy, helpless victim of disease or an accident.

Next to the angels that I have written about, healing angels were not the only ones that I saw flitting amongst the patients at the hospital. Others occasionally came and went, similar to human beings visiting, except that their coming and going was different – a sudden appearance and also a sudden departure. But the healing angels were the only ones that I could clearly and distinctly say that they attended the ill, that they healed them, something that repeatedly verified.

A young woman that had been run over by a car and suffered major inner injuries provided the most convincing evidence I ever saw in regards to the effectiveness of being treated by a healing angel. She was in the ward where I was on night duty. After the doctor in charge of the ward had given her a thorough examination, he declared that her situation was hopeless.

She had been on the ward for a short time only and as I stood at her bedside and contemplated what I could do to alleviate her great pain, I thought how sad it would be if her two children were deprived of their mother's love and nurturance so early in their life – a bright shining angels appeared at the head of the bed with a raised hand that pointed upwards. As always, his attendance was short, but my despondence gave way to hope, even though it seemed to me that it virtually required a miracle for life to cling to this terribly mangled body.

About one hour later I placed a cold, wet cloth on her forehead – and this is when I saw the healing angel on the bed opposite hers. She extended her right hand and placed it on top of the one I used to press the cloth onto the patient's forehead. There was something very calming in her touch and it was so soft that I have to say that I 'sensed' it more than actually feeling it. When she withdrew her hand she lifted her head and looked me straight in the eyes. It was not a beautiful face when judged by our usual standards; but it was marked by a sweetness and tenderness that was far more attractive than mere beauty.

"Be of good cheer" she said, "she will get better". This was the first time that a healing angel talked to me; she often said words of similar, hopeful meaning to me from then on when she looked after patients.

She appeared at the bedside of the patient a number of times that night and each time placed her hand on the forehead of the patient, but by the time I finished my shift at 9am the following morning I hadn't noticed a marked change in the patient's condition. The healing angel once again visited the patient a number of times the following night and she had a refreshing sleep. But when the doctor saw her before my shift had ended, he was still convinced that her case was hopeless.

The healing angels appeared very close to where we were whilst he was talking to me. Even though she was as clearly visible to me as the doctor, I knew that he could not see her. When he once again expressed his opinion that this woman had no chance of getting better, the angel showed me a calming, sweet smile. Encouraged by this I told the doctor: "As far as we can tell, the case seems hopeless, but I do believe that she will get better in spite of this".

"Nonsense nurse", he replied "it is quite impossible for her to survive with the terrible injuries she sustained. But" he added, "we naturally do everything for her that can be done".

There was a marked improvement to her condition that night and her temperature that had been very high, came down. "Well, she seems to be a little better"; the doctor said next morning. "But we are only dealing with a temporary improvement".

The healing angel attended her night after night and a few weeks after her admission to the hospital she was able to return home. She wasn't as strong and as healthy as before her accident – I don't know whether she was healed to that extent – but she was able to fulfil her duties as a housewife and provide her children with the care they required. Her wonderful recovery was treated as a miracle at the hospital.

"I never thought that she would walk again" said the doctor who repeatedly called her case hopeless. "I see her convalescence as something supernatural".

Joy Snell gives us a further example of some impressive help from angels (27, P. 27):

“During my work as a nurse various people entered my field of vision for whom the burden of a great calamity was mightily eased through the service angels provided whereby peace and hope replaced distress and despair. The most striking of these happy transformations happened to a crippled girl aged 16 year who was practically born without legs. She had a number of sisters, but she was the only one afflicted. Her parents seemed to be ashamed of her deformity and they showed her little affection. She never left the house and the neighbours were kept in the dark about her existence. She never learned to read and write and she never received religious instructions.

I would never have got to know her if there had not been a severe illness in her family, this was the reason why I was called and why I spent six months at their house. Her pitiful demeanour and her large, wistful eyes touched me. She initially shied away from me, something she did with all strangers, because the disregard she was shown made her believe that her deformity triggered feelings of rejection in everyone who saw her. This only increased my compassion for her and I began to pull down the barriers of her sensitivity and fearfulness. This soon proved to be successful, because her pining heart hungered for attention.

Once I had gained a certain level of her trust and her love, I began to tell her about God’s love and the story of the saviour and his work here on Earth. She listened to me attentively. Just like a plant that shrinks and withers in parched ground gains strength and new life when rain starts to fall, it seemed to me that her soul that had groped around in spiritual darkness also awakened and flourished once it had been exposed to the sunshine of divine love.

‘Tell me more! Tell me more about it!’ she often called out, whereby her large eyes lit up with joyful expectations when I told her about the service of angels and when I told her that she will also be one of them one day.

‘And will I be able to walk like all the others?’ she asked me. ‘Yes’ I answered, ‘When you get to their world you will receive a beautiful spirit body that will be perfect in every respect and that will be free of all pain and all tiredness’.

‘Oh’ she called out, ‘I do wish that I could also see these radiant angels. I would then not feel so alone’. I told her that it could happen that she will see angels one day; that she might even be able to hear them; but it this wasn’t the case, she would surely feel that they were around here. She was also one that harboured rare hidden powers within her; these apparently only required the awakening of the nature of her soul in order to develop and then reveal the reality of the service they provided.

I had not been to the house for a whole month when she told me that she had seen the ‘radiant angels’ in a dream. She had then dreamt of them for a number of nights after and she began to look forward to her slumber because of the consolation these dreams brought her. Then one morning when I entered her room in order to ask her how she had slept, she sat upright in bed whereby her eyes fluttered with excitement and she clapped her hands. ‘What do you know? What do you know?’ she called out exultantly. ‘I saw one of the radiant angels!’

‘In your dreams?’ I asked her. ‘No it wasn’t a dream, it was reality’ she answered. ‘The angels stood at my bedside, just where you are standing and talked to me’. ‘And what did the angel talk about?’

‘He talked about God’s love, just the way you did, and he made me feel that God really loves me. And he told me that I will also be a radiant angel one day, able to move around exactly the way they do. Oh, I am so happy because I know that everything is really, really true’.

She clapped her hands and I also clapped my hands and a thank-you prayer rose from my heart, because she was granted the company of angels and I knew that she would receive greater comfort and peace from them than any terrestrial friend could provide.

Hardly a day passed after that, whenever I was there, when she would tell me that she had seen an angel and that she had talked to them.

I taught her to read and write. She learned very quickly, because she had this natural gift to comprehend things rapidly. She derived great pleasure from reading the Bible and told me the angels were inclined to talk to her about the things that she read therein and that they explained things to her that made her feel

very happy. From time to time she experienced this wonderful service by angels by day and also by night. And as she told me, she often also heard beautiful music and I have no doubt that it was the same that I hear at times.

These revelations effected a great change in her. The despondency that had become a habit with her gave way to a quiet joy that had something contagious about it so that her parents, who had kept their distance up to then, began to love her and find pleasure in her company. They were certainly not spiritually minded people. They could not believe in the service provided by angels. They were quite sure that the girl only imagined seeing and talking to them. But as this made her happy they decided that it would be a good thing to allow her to 'cultivate' this deception, as they called it.

Her father and mother talked to me about this situation one day as all of us went to the girl's room and they expressed the opinion that all of this went against common sense and was naturally just 'nonsense'. This is when I saw a radiant angel bend over her. Because I was shortly going to leave her, I wished to prepare her for her family's scepticism, and to possibly jolt her parent's blind and ignorant persistence a little, I announced that I could also see the angel and I described his appearance.

'Oh, I am so glad that you can see the radiant angel the way I can' called out the daughter, 'because father and mother know now that it isn't just my imagination'.

When I left this girl I felt very sad, because she had developed into a sweet and loving person. When I said goodbye to her she cried and told me that she would miss me very much.

'You will never again feel as lonely as before' I told her, 'you will always have the angels to console you'. "Yes I know" she said radiantly. 'They promised to never leave me alone again for as long as I live; and after I have died I will always be with them'."

As the preceding example shows, angels can not only provide help with physical suffering but also with mental anguish. The well-known Protestant minister Wilhelm Horkel (born 1909), personally known to me for a long time, reports about a vision of angels experienced by his mother in 1915 at her house in Augsburg. He writes (10, P. 100):

"Mrs. J. H. suffered from five particularly severe worries during the war years that encouraged her over again to appeal to God during her evening prayers. On one such evening she observed the form of an angel's hand appear ever more clearly from the sallow light in a dark corner across from her bed. She recognised five scrolls side by side in this hand, part of a loose sleeve and a flowing garment, but no head. She described this figure as larger than life, but its head remained covered. This apparition remained only long enough for the praying woman to doubtlessly recognise the nearness of an angel.

She then knew unerringly that her five worries were safely in the hands of this angel, respectively in God's hands. She then experienced how each and every worry lifted and dissolved, because they were included in the secureness described in Psalm 139, 16. '...you saw me before I was born. The day allotted to me had all been recorded in your book, before any of them ever began'."

6. The task of guardian angels from the perspective of otherworldly beings

The task of guardian angels during and after the terrestrial death of a human being also plays a role in the following conversation that dealt with the welfare of the deceased in need of help. I had this conversation on the 23rd of July 1993 with an entity that once lived on our Earth, she introduced herself as Gertrud and she talked to me via the mouth of a medium, a Mrs. A. The spirit being Gertrude reports about her present activity in the world of the hereafter, namely to specifically retrieve unfortunately deceased from the obfuscate, dismal regions and to make them receptive to new assignments with the help of the pastoral care of terrestrial human beings (See book 26 "Nachtodliche Schicksale. Gegenseitige Hilfe zwischen Diesseits und Jenseits").

The following conversation ensued after my question about her year of birth:

Schiebeler : What country did you live in?

Gertrude : Germany of course.

Schiebeler : Are you familiar with the word *National Socialism* or *Hitler*?

Gertrude : No, I don't know them. I have never heard of them.

Schiebeler : But World War I is a concept to you?

Gertrude : Oh yes!

Schiebeler : Inflation, is this a word you know?

Gertrude : I know that also, it is bad. This is something I remember.

Schiebeler : You must have been born after 1923.

Gertrude : These were dark times.

Schiebeler : How were you collected? Who was there when you died?

Gertrude : My guardian angel. My guardian angel was with me.

Schiebeler : Was it really your guardian angel?

Gertrude : It was my guardian angel. And he is also here with you. He is always with you. All you have to do is to want to perceive him or to accept his existence.

Schiebeler : This is easier said than done!

Gertrude : I know that, but that is how it is. The guardian angel would dearly like to show himself, to show you that he is here with you. But this is not that easy.

Schiebeler : What gave you the impression that he was your guardian angel?

Gertrude : I already sensed him before. I always believed in him. We always had good contact with one another. I somehow even had conversations with him. We always understood each other well. This is why I know that it was really him when I died. It was not a deception.

Schiebeler : Did he then prepare you for further assignments?

Gertrude : Yes, he was with me, he accompanied me and he led me away, because we do indeed belong together. It is the same with you. Everyone has their guardian angel and you do belong together. He needs you and you need him. The way you develop yourself further he can also develop himself further and vice versa. If you do not develop yourself further he can also not develop himself further. You are very closely interlinked. He can also not progress, if you remain standing still on the same level. When you open yourself to him and ask him to take your hand so that you can walk the path together, he will be there for you always and he will be pleased that you opened

up to him.

Schiebeler : Were you religiously inclined during your time on Earth? Did you pray?

Gertrude : I did pray, but I didn't always go to Church.

Schiebeler : Were you a Catholic or were you a Protestant?

Gertrude : I was a Protestant.

Schiebeler : Did you assume that life after death exists?

Gertrude : Yes, yes, I was always clear about this. I lived on one of the North Sea Islands. We were spread far and wide. That guardian angels existed was actually something that was self-evident to us. It was actually common practise for us to not announce our visits to one another. The others knew a priori when we would turn up and prepared for it. This was something natural to all of us.

Schiebeler : Are you familiar with the term '*Second Sight*'?

Gertrude : Yes, all of us possessed it. I believe that it had something to do with living so isolated, because we had no distractions from all the things you mentioned before. We relied on what you call '*Second Sight*'. We had good contact with one another and with our neighbours that we visited once in a while, but not on a regular basis. It wasn't actually possible at times. Even when somebody was some distance away from us, whether they were our children or our husbands, we knew exactly when they would return home.

Schiebeler : What age did you reach? Do you have a rough idea?

Gertrude : I grew very old. – How old did I get? – I lived to the age of 89 years. I had eight children. – Strange – all of this has just come back to me now. But I don't want to continue with talking about my life on Earth. It was all very peaceful. Do you know that this was just one life on Earth? It was important and I learned a lot, but other things are important to me now.

Schiebeler : But one surely likes to remember one's past now and again.

Gertrude : No, no, that is not the case. We are so busy now. The past is the past. This is why it has been so difficult for me to remember the things you asked me about. I haven't done this for a long time. It isn't as if I have forgotten my children. We did meet after all. But everyone goes their own way and everyone has their own assignments. We do meet one another now and again.

Schiebeler : Your husband also?

Gertrude : Yes, my husband too. We lived on one of the Halligen Islands. My husband died a lot earlier than I did. And at the end all the children had left home also. But I now no longer want to talk about this. It is past. Everything was very peaceful. But we did have a hard life. – I believe that I should return to you one day, I have a feeling about this. Maybe very soon. Because I believe that I can tell you quite a lot that is of

importance to you.

Schiebeler : You are always welcome here.

Gertrude : I am told that I should bring this to a close for today.

Schiebeler : We wish you all the best for your assignment.

Gertrude : And I hope that you will have the same good contact with your guardian angel as I always had with mine. All I can tell you is that it is certainly worthwhile. You simply have to internally open up and believe that he is with you. He needs you just as much as you need him. – I thank you for being allowed to be here. Until the next time. Greetings in the name of God!

Schiebeler : We thank you too. Greetings in the name of God!

Other contacts with the hereafter also provided messages about the assignments and activities of protective spirits or guardian angels. A spirit being who introduced himself as Josef for instance transmitted comprehensive depictions of the hereafter and indoctrinations via the *trance medium Beatrice Brunner* (1910-1983) to a large circle of listeners in Zurich and this on a weekly basis. On the 7th of January 1978 this Josef reported amongst other things the following at a public presentation (31, P. 33):

“People are guided through life by God’s spirits according to the relationship they entertain with God’s spirits and with God. Are human beings worthy of having one of God’s spirits so close nearby? Or are God’s spirits instructed to maintain a large distance to their protégés?

Can a human being have a guardian angel with the assignment to observe that particular human being and to then give account for that human being’s actions to more eminent spirits? They might possibly have the task of protecting their protégé and to keep them safe from evil. But not every one of God’s spirits has the one and same assignment. It could be that one has one of one’s relative at one’s side as a protecting spirit and that this relative, if one had a harmonious relationship with this relative, has the greatest interest in the welfare of its protégé. This would be of great advantage to the relevant person.

But not everyone has the good fortune of having a relative act as guardian angel. It even happens that a human being is constantly accompanied by an avenging angel – but only along the lines of justice. One should never entertain the thought that the repatriated will befall an injustice in any shape or form.

The chaperonage of people by God’s spirits is indeed very varied. A person could, as I said before, have one of God’s spirits allocated who is far removed from it. Another person could have an avenging angel constantly at its side, one that will always intervene. You know from experience that there are those that never succeed with anything they do. When they think that they have accomplished something, it always falls on a heap. This has its profound reasons. But as people think along mundane lines they are incapable of grasping such things.

But I will not omit telling you that there are people that are accompanied by a number of God’s spirits. Even eminent spirits can escort one human being or another through life. But to be allowed to do so must have a valid reason.

There are people with a good guardian angel who is always well disposed towards them and who will keep a lot of things away from them that would harm them. Such people gained merits somewhere within their soul. There are also God’s spirits who have the opportunity to interfere in peoples’ lives and there are guardian angels who occupy completely different levels of spiritual development. They are not required to hang around a person as their one and only constant guardian angel throughout that person’s life. When a person’s spiritual life makes progress, that person gains spiritual merits and these merits accordingly attract the interest of higher spirits who will then look after them. This means that people can be chaperoned by eminent spirits.

A great miscellaneousness reigns here. A lot of things play a role in regards to individual people. A lot depends on a person's thoughts, actions and attitudes towards others and the way he or she conducts their life on a daily basis. Each can therefore make their own contribution towards gaining more eminent spiritual guidance.

I am familiar with the thoughts of people that say: 'Well, I know people who have a truly good life, but they certainly do not behave like Christians. They are not good human beings throughout their life, they overextend and deceive their fellow men. But they have a good time in spite of this. They also proceed so cleverly that everything they do succeeds'. – Yes my dear siblings, there are also spirits from the lower regions with the opportunity to access human beings. One should never entertain the thought that those from the lower regions lack the required intelligence. They particularly like to deal with physical, terrestrial matters; they have the required overview and are therefore able to control their human instruments accordingly. This is how people turn into instruments in the hands of these spirits. When their actions trespass against the true, divine law, it will award the appropriate punishment. Trespasses will have to be atoned for and amended when the time comes.

Dear siblings, I do believe that I have explained a lot to you this last hour or so and that I also offered you the opportunity to contemplate all of this. Think about it and when you have a quiet moment, ask for higher insights. There is no need for you to talk about this to those around you, namely that you are asking for these insights, and you do not have to tell them how often you pray and what you ask for in your prayers. Not everyone that calls 'Lord, Lord' will go to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Allow yourselves to be guided by the divine laws, by God's will and by everything Christ, mankind's redeemer, has imposed on you. This will already be a blessing to you in this life and it will also turn into a blessing in the world of the hereafter. May God's blessing envelop and guide you. May those amongst you that are ill, be it physically or mentally, regain their health through God's blessing.

Greetings in the name of God!"

One can gather from the preceding expositions that the type of otherworldly companion, ergo the protecting spirit or guardian angel a person has during their time on Earth, very much depends on that person and on its lifestyle. These companions can certainly be provided by the side that is antagonistic towards God for evil and malicious people and they in turn can incite them, affirm and support them when committing evil deeds. The Bible's terminology calls them Satan's angels.

The human being called Hitler (1889-1945) must surely have had one or a number of that type. Between 1939 and 1945, he survived around 37 assassination attempts (6, P. 248). This can surely not have been pure coincidence. Hitler himself was convinced that his survival was not just based on "good luck" because he thought he had to fulfil what he called a task of providence. On the 7th of September 1932 he said in a speech (6, P. 248): "I am also convinced that I have this certain feeling that nothing can happen to me, because I know that providence destined me to fulfil my assignment." He was a human being that was kind of controlled by the dark side, a demonically possessed person. In 1931, he said about himself (6, P. 185): "Thoughts, ideas and notions appear in my mind at times that I have neither read nor heard anywhere before and never contemplated either, things that I cannot logically explain and don't seemed to be logically justifiable. But they later seemed to prove themselves to be correct most of the times after all." On the evening of the assassination attempt on the 20th of July 1944, Hitler as very anxious and nervous and said (6, P. 186): "I hope that nothing will happen to me, because I have a very bad feeling."

All of this and his completely ill-fated deeds and actions begin to make sense when one assumes that control from the otherworldly regions that are antagonistic towards God was exerted over him. Demonic influences were also apparent during his occasional fits of rage that culminated with throwing himself to the floor and biting the carpet. This led to a situation where he received the nickname "*carpet biter*" by groups of people that were not too friendly disposed towards him. One

such incident was witnessed in 1944 by the commanding general of the 56th army corps after he was recalled from Greece to the Führer's headquarters. He told the officers of his staff about his experience later with the comment that Hitler behaved like a man possessed. The general himself acted a little disturbed and unapproachable for a number of days after returning to his staff so that his officers wondered whether he was capable of leading the imminent withdrawal of his division. But his old state of mind gradually returned.

There are however cases where a good guardian angel gains the upper hand at the last moment and where the person concerned obeys his appellation. The following example shows this:

This was broadcast on the 24th of March 1994 (21.00 – 22.15) by the Zweiten Deutschen Fernsehen (ZDF) in their series "Kontakte", a program about the theme "Ich habe die Hölle gesehen. Nah-Todes-Erfahrungen (I have seen hell. Near-death experiences). An American, *Professor Howard Storm* amongst others, reported what he experienced at death's door and how a supernatural power or inspiration induced him to timely say a prayer, something that saved him. He was a successful Professor of Art at the University of Northern Kentucky for 20 years before his experience. On a business trip via Paris he was taken to a hospital there because of a perforated bowel. The doctors had given up on him. Akin to a miracle he survived the operation. He experienced something terrible during these critical hours and it *radically changed his life after*. He said:

"Which mentally sane person would admit that he was a candidate for hell? A sane person certainly not. Only the insane or people who somehow feel that this experience had changed them, would admit that they had been to that place before and that they were so unworthy that they had landed at such a wretched place."

Howard Storm experienced this when he *exited* his body before and during his operation whilst under narcosis and led to a place that one could call hell. Being a professor of the arts he decided to make a drawing of his experience that he then explained during the telecast. A multitude of black figures had apparently attacked him. He reports:

"I was being attacked here in this place of darkness. I drew *myself* lighter in order to differentiate myself from the other children of this darkness. I am naturally not better than them. This is called artistic license. I tried to depict the glee they felt as they devoured me.

I left the room wherein I had found myself and I thought that the figures that accompanied me were the hospital personal that were supposed to take me to my operation. I thought that I was alive and that I was okay even though my wife could neither hear me nor see me, something that perturbed me somewhat. These figures took me on a long journey of lots and lots of kilometres, they remained with me, guided and guarded over me so that we didn't lose our way. It turned darker and darker as we went our way.

I eventually realised that we were no longer at the hospital, but I didn't know where we were because everything was so dark and mysterious. But I was aware that some uncanny things were happening here. I became very much afraid of these people and told them that I no longer wanted to go with them. They replied: 'We are almost there' and they started to pull and drag me. Even though I had just experienced the worst day in my life, I fought them. Even though I had walked for hours I didn't feel the slightest tiredness. I fought against these people and I felt very strong and very powerful. I hit their faces. I bashed them. But they just laughed about everything that I did as if all of this was extremely funny. They pulled and dragged me and they then began to scratch and rip me. The laughter grew and the noise was colossal. I eventually lay there, completely torn apart, broken and covered in unspeakable dirt.

I then heard myself say: 'Pray to God' and I said to myself: 'I don't believe in God'. I cannot pray to him. It was very strange because I could indeed hear myself say: 'Pray to God'. I then thought, how should I pray? I then heard a very emotional: 'Pray to God' for the third time. I tried to remember my prayers from my youth and this proved to be difficult, because it had been 25 years since I last visited a church. I started to remember individual sections and parts of prayers. The people around me kicked me in order to get a

reaction from me so they could continue playing with me. They began to screech and to scream at me telling me to stop praying. They explained in very excited and vulgar terms that God did not exist, that nobody could hear me and that they would now really hurt me, because I had uttered these prayers to God.

I also noticed that they backed away from me whilst I shouted these words of prayer, as if they found these sentences and words about God so repellent that they couldn't bear to hear them. As they retreated into the darkness I felt an impulse to speak these prayers even louder. I eventually found myself alone at this place."

Howard Storm could not talk about his "vision of hell" to begin with. This is why he began to translate his experience in paintings and sculptures. But he then aborted his career as a Professor of the Fine Arts. He became a pastor a year ago and he now guides a parish in Cincinnati. It calls itself "Zion United Church of Christ". Howard Storm reports the following about this new stage in his life:

"All of my old friends and mates were unfortunately not too happy about the changes in my life. I believe it shocked them to some degree, because all of my old friends had the same philosophical attitude towards life as my old one, namely materialistic, scientific and atheistic. One of them once said to me: 'Well, you have now turned into one of those born-again Jesus-loves-me types.' I answered: 'Yes, but not the way you think.' Most of them no longer thought that it was fun to be around me. I had to change my life! I had to give up my habits like cursing, smoking and drinking. This is why partying with me was no longer fun. No dirty jokes anymore, at least no good, dirty jokes. To lose most of my friends did indeed hurt, but I soon made new friends."

Howard Storm gave up convincing other people that hell really exists. He now hardly ever talks about his terrible experience. His experience became important to *him*, because it gave his life a new order, one he is now comfortable with. He no longer fears ending up in hell, because he now knows what life means to him. Storm said:

"I would have preferred to pretend that it never happened in those days. But I couldn't do this because I had to rethink my whole life from A to Z after this experience. Everything I represented or thought and did had to be reconsidered. I had to make numerous changes and I didn't even know where to start. I had to start at the beginning so I said to myself that the best that I can do is to forget everything. Nobody wanted this. I didn't want it, my wife and my children didn't want it; ergo nobody wanted it. I knew that this would cause trouble with my job. Nobody was interested in this stuff. They wanted to hear about successes within the world of art and not about how we could become more loving and more emphatic.

I spent a lot of time thinking about how I could get rid of this experience. But I couldn't forget this experience. What I would have done would have been denying the only true thing that ever happened in my life. I knew that if I was to cast this away I would be lost, really lost."

Thus far the report from Howard Storm and it shows that otherworldly companions can intervene in the life of a stressed human being if that human being is willing to follow their advice.

7. Angels release a trapped deceased

The work and help provided by angels does not end with their protégé's death. If he or she led a bad existence, they can be initially led to the dark spheres or to a prison for that matter. The American psychiatrist Dr. Carl Wickland already reported about the temporary locking up of guilt-ridden spirit entities through higher developed spirits in his book "Thirty years amongst the dead" (30). He had gained his insights over decades, together with his wife as his medium, from their ancillary help for earthbound spirit beings. He writes (30, P. 48):

According to the law spirit, (advanced) spirits with increasing insight and cognisance receive the ability

to create an environment for ignorant and resisting souls that might seem like a prison to them, namely an impenetrable cell-like room from whence there is no escape. This is where they must remain until they have come to their senses and until they show the good will to take their changed situation into account and abide by the laws of spiritual development! Whilst there they will see nothing but the blemishes and shortcomings of their own personality, these are presented to them in the form of thousands of mirror images, and also their deeds and omissions from their latest life on Earth!

Somebody might now ask themselves why these advanced spirits do not take these earthbound souls under their wings in order to guide them along the right path without first bringing them to a medium. Quite simply because a lot of these ignorant souls cannot be accessed at all by advanced spirits before they are one more time brought into intimate and fully conscious contact with their body's past terrestrial-physical world. Only once they have become aware of the raw fact that some major change to their condition must have taken place will they gain discernment about their position and will then allow themselves to be guided towards the path of upward development!"

As has been already mentioned in the previous chapter, I am also participating in a circle of human helpers that provides pastoral care for unfortunately deceased people via two mediums, the way it is described in more detail in my book titled (26) "Nachtodliche Schicksale". As Hungarian spiritualists wanted to get to know this work more intimately, I was invited to see them in Budapest in April. This is what happened:

Meeting in Budapest at the *Verein für Geistige Forschung* on Sunday morning on the 28th of April 1996.

Participants: Dr. Liptay-Wagner, two Hungarian mediums, another eight people and Professor Schiebeler.

The preliminaries consisted of religious music and prayers.

After an initial psychic address by the first medium, a spirit entity entered the second medium called Elisabeth Bubla, a woman in her mid-sixties, and announced its presence in Hungarian in a loud voice. The follow conversation was simultaneously translated by a female interpreter.

Spirit : What is my business with you?

Schiebeler : We say greetings in the name of God to you and welcome you.

Spirit : God? God?

Schiebeler : Don't you know God's name?

Spirit : I have heard about it. But whose God is he?

Schiebeler : He is our God. The creator of the world.

Spirit : This is your God, but not mine.

Schiebeler : It is too bad for you that he is not your God.

Spirit : I do not need a God. Do you think that God knows and can do everything? Just like me, he is only a terrestrial human being.

Schiebeler : God is not a terrestrial human being. He is the creator of the world.

Spirit : What does 'he is the creator of the world' mean? Who created the world? Everything is physical matter. Everything was created from physical matter.

Schiebeler : This is your opinion and you are not feeling too well. You are indignant with God and this is why you don't want to know him. Where are you presently?

Spirit : Where am I now? That's a good question. I am locked up. I was locked up in a dark prison.

Schiebeler : Would you like to remain there forever?

Spirit : I do not want to remain here, but I cannot find the door of the prison and I do not have any tools.

Schiebeler : You have been brought here so that we can give you the means to find the door.

Spirit : And you are going to give me a tool so that I can open the door?

Schiebeler : You have the means in your own hands.

Spirit : I have nothing in my hands. I would like to receive a tool. Now that you are here, couldn't you open the door for me? You could help me get out of this prison. I would like to breathe fresh air.

Schiebeler : We will now tell you how to open the door.

Spirit : How can I do this if you don't help me?

Schiebeler : By asking God to send you helpers that will open the door for you and guide you to God's realm.

Spirit : Me? – Am I supposed to pray? – And he will open the door for me? You only talk, but you don't help me. It would be nice to be helped. It looks like nobody wants to help me.

Schiebeler : For as long as you are defiant and indignant with God you cannot be helped.

Spirit : What should I do? Are you perchance a pastor or why did you come to the door of my prison? To console me? What are your intentions when you talk to me in this darkness through this door? You could at least shine some light.

Schiebeler : I am not a pastor.

Spirit : Ah, not a pastor, then tell me, what can I expect from you?

Schiebeler : You have been brought here by God's angels so that you realise that you are in a very unhappy situation and that you can help yourself if you ask God... (*The spirit interrupted me*)

Spirit : Who told you that it was an angel that guided me here and that it wasn't you who came to me, because I'm here? I find myself in darkness. I have looked for the door in vain up to now. All I could feel was the coldness of the walls. Here is a grill that allows some air to enter and that I might be able to use to get out of here. And you tell me now that angels led me here. How could an angel lead me here, if I was already here (*The spirit means the prison*)? **You** had to come here! I cannot leave here. I am locked in.

Schiebeler : You said yourself that you could not get out of there. You therefore didn't come here of your own free will. Somebody brought you here to us.

Spirit : You don't understand. How can I leave here when I'm locked in? You must understand this. Open the door and I will be free.

Schiebeler : You said it yourself, how could you get here if you are locked in? But you are the one who came here.

Spirit : Where did I come to? Please, where did I come to? Will somebody explain this to me?

Schiebeler : To people on this Earth, to a country we call Hungary, to a city that is called Budapest where people are gathered... (*The spirit interrupts me*)

Spirit : To Earth and to Budapest? What does this mean? What does this mean to me, that I came down to Earth? But I am here on Earth! I am here. Please don't tell me that I have come down to Earth.

Schiebeler : You were brought here. But you did not come here of your own free will, angels brought you here.

Spirit : I wasn't locked up of my own free will and I would never have come here of my own free will either. I don't know who locked me up. Who shut the door? Who locked it so that I cannot open it?

Schiebeler : We don't know who locked you up, but we know who brought you here. Namely God's angels, so that we can help you and make you realise that you can and must ask God to set you free. This freedom must be requested by you. You must ask God to help you.

(I had assumed during this conversation that the spirit knew that he had died and that he found himself in an otherworldly prison. The spirit, as I only gathered later, obviously didn't know it and this is why this whole conversation went askew)

Spirit : Shall I ask him?

Schiebeler ; Yes, correct. It depends on it.

Spirit : Why is it certain that this darkness disappears and the door opens when I ask him?

Schiebeler : When you ask God to send you a helper, a guardian angel that will get you out of your prison, things around you will get bright again and you will be led to the world of the hereafter, to regions where you will receive a new task, so that you can also help others.

Spirit : Does that mean that I am to be led to the world of the hereafter? I am supposed to open the door? Will I be free then? And can you explain to me what actually happened here? It is just that I am here in darkness? I also don't know why I am talking to you.

Schiebeler : The fact that you are there in darkness is certainly not unjust. It must have its reason.

Spirit : You think that it is not unjust. I mean that it is unjust. If I were the director of this prison I would open the doors sometimes in order to provide some light to the people here. There is no mercy and no compassion here.

Schiebeler : What did you do to end up in prison? There must have been a reason? What did you do on Earth?

Spirit : (*The sound of the voice sounds considerably more subdued*) What do people do on Earth? What do the others do on Earth? I do the same.

Schiebeler : A lot of other people do similar things to what you did and they also suffer the consequences after, once they have died.

Spirit : Don't say things like '*once they have died*'. How can you say something like this? What kind of words are these? I am here and I talk here. Or did you come to me? And then you go and say '*once they have died*'. How can you say something like this? What is '*after you died*' supposed to mean? I am here talking. What is '*once they have died*' supposed to mean?

Schiebeler : So you don't actually know that you departed from Earth? That you actually died?

Spirit : Why should I leave Earth? I am here. You must finally grasp this. I live here, but I am incarcerated.

Schiebeler : You are here with us now, not as a living human being, but as a spirit.

Spirit : (*Very astonished*) Spirit – Me? – You dare to tell me this with certainty? I am here as a spirit?

Schiebeler : You would otherwise not be here. We actually do not see you in person. You are in the body... (*The spirit interrupts me*)

Spirit : You cannot see me? I can speak louder. (*And the spirit did actually do so and this also very distinctly*)

Schiebeler : We cannot see you at all.

Spirit : You cannot see me? I am talking very loudly.

Schiebeler : You talk with the voice of a woman.

Spirit : (*Very astonished*) Who, me?

Schiebeler : You have been put into the body of a woman.

Spirit : (*Now very quietly*) I have been put into?

Schiebeler : Were you a woman during your life on Earth? Have a look at your hands. Feel them. Feel your hands. (*The spirit felt its hands*)

Spirit : They are very small.

Schiebeler : Are they your hands?

Spirit : No, these are not my hands.

Schiebeler : Did you wear glasses during your lifetime? Touch your eyes.

Spirit : (*With an expression of horror*) Oh, what kind of mask is this?

Schiebeler : Now touch your hair.

Spirit : Is it carnival time? – Surely, it must be carnival time. I fell asleep and somebody placed a wig on my head.

Schiebeler : And they dressed **you** in women's clothes and locked you up in prison?

Spirit : Didn't **you** do this?

Schiebeler : I am asking **you**.

Spirit : It is carnival time and you forgot to release me.

Schiebeler : So why don't you pull on your hair. If it was carnival time they would have placed a wig on your head. Now try to remove the wig. (*The spirit pulls the medium's hair*)

Spirit : (*Astonished*) Oh, this is not a wig.

Schiebeler : Now touch your hands. – (*A long pause*) – Could they have made small hands for you just for carnival time?

Spirit : I don't need them, Take them away.

Schiebeler : You also didn't have this ring here on Earth. – It is the wedding ring of the woman you find yourself in.

Spirit : Really? – A woman? – Is the woman I find myself in married? This is a great bit of news to me.

Schiebeler : Yes, she is married, but not to you.

Spirit : I thought so, because I am not married.

Schiebeler : You must surely recognise by now that something extraordinary has happened to you.

Spirit : Yes, something extraordinary has happened. It would be nice if you could explain this to me now. What does this extraordinary event mean?

Schiebeler : This means that it is not carnival time for you, but that you left the Earth and we have a name for this, you have died.

Spirit : Me??

Schiebeler : And you didn't even notice it.

Spirit : How can something like this happen to a person? One dies and one doesn't even realise it? And do you know someone who had a similar experience? Simply died and didn't know? This is something completely new to me.

Schiebeler : A lot of people do not realise it because they never thought that one continues to live after one's demise.

Spirit : Really?

Schiebeler : Did you know that one continues to live after one's death?

Spirit : No. One sometimes heard about this, namely that it might be so, but I didn't believe it myself.

Schiebeler : Which country did you live in?

Spirit : In a large empire.

Schiebeler : What was the name of this empire?

Spirit : USSR. (*Meaning the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*)

Schiebeler : Therefore Russia. What part of Russia did you live in? In the Ukraine or in Belarus?

Spirit : In Belarus.

Schiebeler : Do you know when you lived. Do you remember a year?

Spirit : As far as I can remember 1919.

Schiebeler : We now have 1996. So you must have been dead for 77 years.

Spirit : So you really think that I died?

Schiebeler : If you died in 1919 and we now have 1996 then... (*The spirit interrupts me*)

- Spirit : Why do you think I am here in spite of this and why we are able to talk to one another?
- Schiebeler : A lot of beings in the world of the hereafter, who have a miserable time like you, are being guided to us so that we can help them get out of their difficult situation.
- Spirit : Yes, my situation is very grave indeed.
- Schiebeler : We asked one of God's angels a while ago to bring us somebody whom we can and should help realise that they have passed away.
- Spirit : Did you pray so that I could come here?
- Schiebeler : We didn't specifically pray for you, because we didn't know you at all, we simply prayed for somebody who needed help.
- Spirit : You prayed for somebody and I am the one?
- Schiebeler : You are obviously this man, the one they selected. This represents an act of grace from God.
- Spirit : God's grace? For me? – I always rejected him and you tell me that it is God's grace in spite of this, namely that I can be here and we can talk?
- Schiebeler : You lived at a time and in a country where one fought against God most severely, where the pious were put to death, where Churches were destroyed... (*The spirit interrupts me*)
- Spirit : (*Very energetically*) Don't tell me, don't tell me that the pious were put to death. Please don't tell me that!
- Schiebeler : Why am I not supposed to tell you this? – Were you involved in this?
- Spirit : Yes, I was involved in this.
- Schiebeler : So you now know why you ended up in a prison.
- Spirit : No, I may not! – Oh, is this why I am in prison? Is this why I am in darkness? Is this why I feel worse all the time? Is this why I find it ever more difficult to breathe all the time? – I am about to faint. Please help me if you can. Pray for me now. I am at my wits end. Now, now (*Very desperate*) I will really die.
- Schiebeler : No, you will not die. You died and you will now start a new life. All punishment has an end someday.
- Spirit : I am dying!
- Schiebeler : God, heavenly father, I ask you for mercy and compassion for this soul, send helpers to him to deliver him... (*The spirit interrupted me*)
- Spirit : I am feel unwell. A doctor, a doctor! I need a doctor to help me, to set me free, because

I am dying right now, now, now!

Schiebeler : You will not die, you will awaken to a new life.

Spirit : (*Despaired*) This is the end of me! This is the end of me!

Schiebeler : This end is a new beginning for you. You must also acknowledge that this can be a new beginning for you.

Spirit : But I am very tired, I feel very weak. I am very, very sick. I am ill. A doctor, a doctor! Is there no doctor here?

Schiebeler : Fold your hands. Can you do so?

Spirit : I can do so, but I have no energy left. I am weak.

Schiebeler : Now fold your hands and speak after me: God, I ask you, I entreat you to show me your mercy and your compassion. I confess that I acted amiss on Earth and I ask for your forgiveness and remission of all my sins. Please send me an angel from your realm who can lead me from this prison so that I can once again see the light, so that I can enter your realm in order to serve you and atone for everything that I did on Earth. I ask you oh Lord for your mercy and your compassion, for your love and your blessing and I thank you for guiding me to this circle today so that my suffering may find an end amongst this circle of twelve people here in Hungary, assembled here to help someone like me.

(This prayer was translated into Hungarian piece by piece and he initially repeated it hesitantly but then ever more forcefully)

Spirit : Oh, the prison has become larger!

Schiebeler : Do you already feel somewhat better?

Spirit : (*In a jubilant voice*) Oh, this is wonderful, this is great! The lock has gone, oh this is wonderful!

Schiebeler : Do you already see some light?

Spirit : A little bit, as if it was a little candle. But the most important thing is that these walls, these wet, dark walls are no longer there. This feeling of being enclosed is no longer there. I am here and I live. I am feeling better already.

Schiebeler : Dear God, I ask you to allow me to see more light and I thank you for removing the walls of my prison. (*These words were repeated by the spirit being*)

Spirit : (*In a jubilant voice*) Look, look, look at what is happening here!

Schiebeler : Do you now believe that a higher authority rules the world?

Spirit : Yes, I do believe now. Only physical things mattered to me before I experienced this.

But look, have a look, the light is constantly growing. Everything here is changing. And I see forms emerge from the light. They come and they come. They have pure, shining wings. This must surely be an angel. He is telling me that they are visiting me, that they are not aggrieved with me and that I did bring about the demise of these people. They are now praying for me and all those that are the same as me to come into the light. The angel tells me that the victims asks that all those like me that have died should find the light. The very last of those that have done the same on Earth as you must also reach this group, because the angel tells me that together we have to go somewhere where we have to go to school. We will hear about and re-experience everything that we committed and also how we selected the wrong path to travel. We will be taught that when we have to return to Earth again, we have to select the right path and that we have to atone for everything that we did on Earth. All of this will be shown and explained to us. They tell me that I have been inside that prison for a very long time and that this is why it took such a long time for me to comprehend that I no longer had a terrestrial body from whence I could make myself understood. My time here has come to an end and I have to say goodbye here. I say goodbye to you because I have to leave this place here.

Schiebeler : We recommend that you receive God's mercy and ask for his power, so that he can guide and usher you, smooth all paths for you and give you the strength to serve him. I realise that you will now also receive an assignment so that you will hopefully not repeat the things that happen in those days. – Greetings in the name of God!

Spirit : Greetings in the name of God!

To close the meeting, all participants prayed the Lord's Prayer together, the German speakers in German and the Hungarian speakers in Hungarian.

I asked the medium after about what it had felt during the psychic transmission? It answered that it had felt absolutely nothing at all. It had been in a deep trance.

The Journal for Human Rights, Jan/Feb 1996 P, 9 reports:

In the Soviet Union around 200,000 priests have been murdered from the start of the October Revolution in 1917 to 1985. Priests and monks were crucified in front of Churches, shot, strangled and had poured water over them during the winter until they turned into columns of ice. Not only priests, but also thousands of other, pious people too. A further 300,000 were incarcerated and 40,000 Churches destroyed. The chairman of the Soviet Government Commission in charge of the rehabilitation of the victims of political oppression, Alexander Jakowlew, reported this after perusing up to now unknown archive documents.

The fact that pictorial depictions of angels, but also in many visions, are always rendered with wings or appear with wings, is down to their intentions of emphasising their heavenly origin. This is how one can differentiate them from ordinary human beings. They in fact do not have wings as they do not require them at all.

The reports and examples cited here are meant to show that biblical reports about angels, who are nowadays relegated to the realm of myth by most modern theologians, analogously fit into our present times. God's messengers also have an effect in our modern times, even though we do not perceive them at all most of the time. But the ungodly world also exerts its influence. It is up to individual's free will and free decision to open or close themselves to one or the other influence. As

these decisions fall very differently, this results in the gruesome events taking place on this Earth.

When one wants to consciously open and subordinate oneself to God and his son Jesus Christ, one has to ask for their protection on a daily basis, for instance by saying the following Morning Prayer:

We thank you heavenly Father
for having protected us this night
from all harm and danger
and we ask you
to keep us save this day
from sinning and all evil
so that our deeds and our life please you.
We order our body and our soul
and everything else into your hands.
May your saintly angels be with us
so that the evil enemy cannot
enforce his powers on us.
Amen.

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