

HOW ANGELS LEAD AND PROTECT US

From *Arcana Coelestia* 5992:1,2 we learn:

The angels through whom the Lord leads and also protects a person are near his head.

The angels: impart charity and faith

notice the direction in which the person's delights turn

modify and bend those delights towards what is good, so far as they can do so while keeping a person in freedom.

The angels activate good and truth with a person to balance evils and falsities activated by the evil spirits. As a result the person is in the middle and is not conscious of the evil or of the good. The person is in freedom to turn towards one or towards the other.

Angels from the Lord use these methods to lead and protect a person, doing so every instant and fraction of an instant.

If the angels were to let up merely for a single moment the person would be plunged into evil from which after that he cannot possibly be brought out.

The angels are motivated to do all this by a love they receive from the Lord, for nothing gives them greater delight and happiness than to remove evils from a person and lead him to heaven.

Scarcely anyone believes the Lord has that kind of concern for a person, a constant concern lasting from the very beginning of a person's existence to the final moment of his life, and for evermore after that.

True and False Questions for Discussion:

1. Angels want to lead us toward what is good and protect us from what is evil.
2. Nothing gives the angels greater happiness than removing evils from people and leading them to heaven.
3. The Lord's takes care of us when the angels can no longer help us.
4. Angels try to lead us toward what is good, "bending" our delights.
5. Angels want to "win us over" to being good and our freedom is not important to them.
6. The angels help keep us in equilibrium so that we are free to choose between good and evil.
7. Even if the angels weren't caring for us constantly, we would be fine, because we don't need their help.
8. Angels lead us through our delights, maximizing every tendency toward good.
9. Freedom is being able to choose between what is evil and what is good.
10. We are aware of the angels' efforts to lead us toward good and of evil spirits to lead us toward evil.