



Hebrew Backgrounds	Genesis and Numbers
Greek Developments	Daniel 8-10
Angels in Philosophy	Paul's Letters
Angels in Poetry	Psalms
Angels in the Digital Age	Revelation

<http://hardlylastword.wordpress.com/angels>

Some Tidbits about Angels and English Poetry

- Cædmon (7th century), the first English poet, given that gift by an angel according to Bede (7th-8th centuries)
- From Chaucer's *Monk's Tale* (14th century)
*At Lucifer, though he an aungel were,
And nat a man, at hym wol I biginne,
For though Fortune may noon aungel dere,
From heigh degree yet fel he for his synne
Doun into helle, where he yet is inne.
O Lucifer, brightest of angels alle,
Now artow Sathanas, that mayst nat twynne
Out of miserie, in which that thou art falle.*
- John Milton's *Paradise Lost* (17th century) and Angels
 - Epic poem begins just after Satan's angels expelled from heaven
 - Features the angels Gabriel, Uriel, Raphael, Michael, and Abdiel
 - War in heaven between God's and Satan's angels turns absurd
 - Lucifer, Angel of Light, spawns Sin from his forehead and becomes Satan
 - Raphael hints at the possibility that angels couple in heaven
- William Blake (18th and 19th centuries) and Angels
 - Angels always involved in the lives of children
 - Angels of Albion (England) and of America fight a war alongside the people of both places (cf. Daniel)
 - Angels are visible to the poetic soul but not to money-grubbers
- Tony Kushner (20th century)
 - Use of angels in play about AIDS
 - Reversal of roles encompasses angels and politicians

Angels in the Psalms

- Psalm 18:6-13—YHWH rides on a cherub
- Psalm 34:1-8—YHWH's angel camps with those who fear Him
- Psalm 35:1-8—Psalmist calls down attacking angels (and slippery roads) on his enemies
- Psalm 91:8-13—Angels protect people in behalf of YHWH (sound familiar?)
- Psalm 148:1-4—Angels join in the praise of YHWH