

# *The Virtual Reality of Alien Angels*

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I know many will question why I use the term “aliens” with regards to angels. Yet, I made this choice to make a statement about the actual nature of those entities that we call angelic beings.

Torah tradition does not need to wait for modern science to discover other life in our universe. We have ancient knowledge dating back thousands of years that not only are we not alone in our universe; we are also not alone on our own planet.

Before we discuss the Torah story of Abraham’s three visiting guests, recorded in Gen. 18, Genesis 6 previously mentions how certain “sons of god” came (down from Heaven) and took for themselves wives from the daughters of men. These sons of god are identified in Midrashic literature as being fallen angels. They were at one time far above human life and then came down here to stay. Now again, in Abraham’s day, we are told by Midrashic tradition that his three guests are visiting angels.

Now, herein lies a disagreement amongst Torah commentators. Some say that the entire episode of the three visitors was nothing more than a prophetic vision; all happening in Abraham’s mind. The second opinion however states that this was an actual event and that three angels physically appeared in the flesh and sat and dined with Avraham. Of course, the question is asked how can angels eat. The answer given is that they only appeared to be eating but that they actually did not.

Why would it be a problem for angels to eat? This is because most Sages are under the impression that angels are totally incorporeal beings, made up entirely of energy with no physical mass to them at all. While this is the majority accepted opinion, not all Sages agreed. Some were of the opinion that certain lower races of angels were some how corporeal. Therefore, according to the opinion that states angels are incorporeal then they only appeared to be eating food (and possibly were only there



in Abraham's vision). According to the other opinion, these angels took on flesh and dwelt amongst us. As such, they could eat, drink and in any other way appear totally human.

So then, what exactly are angels? According to both the Zohar and RaMBaM there are ten known species of angels, each being rather different from the other. Although RaMBaM is of the opinion all races of angels are ethereal, non-corporeal entities, Kabbalistic literature is split on the matter. Higher angelic races are considered to be ethereal in nature; whereas certain "lower" angelic races might have some sort of physical side to them.

In one ancient teaching, recorded in Avot D'Rebbi Natan, there is discussion about another alien race of beings that we refer to as demonic. It is taught that these demonic entities share similar characteristics with both humans and angels. These entities like angels can be invisible, fly and have prescient knowledge of the future. Like humans, these entities eat and drink, sexually procreate and die. Now, how can something ethereal and non-corporeal eat and drink, have sex and die, unless there is a definite physical component to them? Now let us extrapolate from what we do know on to what we want to know. If these demonic entities are the fallen angels, spoken of in Genesis 6 and they can eat, drink, sexually procreate and die, does this mean that their non-fallen compatriots can do the same?

Interesting question, is it not? For those who believe angels are totally non-corporeal, this is not even a possibility. Yet, for those who believe otherwise, it certainly is. Moreover, for those who hold angels to be non-corporeal, then how did a selection of them become corporeal and thus become subject to physical natural laws?

Now, in light of these two opinions we can review the episode of Abraham's three guests in two different ways. Was it a vision or was it physical? From all appearances, it was certainly physical, although physical appearance can be deceiving. We do see that two of these entities left Avraham and headed towards Sodom, there to rescue Lot and to destroy the city. Now, certainly Lot and the men of Sodom were not having any type of vision of visitors. The two angels were clearly seen by Lot, his family and the men of the city who even attempted to homosexually rape them. Hard as one may try, one cannot rape a vision. The clear physicality of these two entities gives credence and support to their also being physical in their visit with Avraham.

This episode in the life of Abraham seeing and actually interacting with corporeal angels, appearing as human, is not an isolated incident in the Torah, or in later Biblical literature. Thus the appearance of angels, then and now, might have a very real physical component to them. While knowledge of this as applied to understanding the Bible is nice, it is still only academic. Yet, angelic intervention

amongst human beings never ended with the close of the Biblical cannon. Angels continue to intervene among us to this day. Countless stories, from around the world, have been told for centuries how this or that Rabbi met with Eliyahu HaNavi or some other Heavenly entity. The one thing these stories have in common is that the angel in question always comes in a physical form and always appears in the disguise of being simply human.

Now we can ask the question; how many times have angels come in modern times, performed their work and gone their way, without ever being recognized for who they truly are? The story of Abraham's three guests indicates to us the methods of angelic operations. How many of us have had a stranger suddenly appear in our lives at a strategic and critical moment; helped us with some thing and then disappear as quickly as they appeared? I myself have personally experienced this and judging from the many conversations I have had with people all around the world, many others have also experienced this strange occurrence. Who can say, who amongst us has actually interacted with an angel and did not recognize it as it was happening.

Now that I have laid the foundation for us to understand how angels can actually be amongst us, let us now ask a difficult, if not impossible to answer question. If angels come down and dwell among us, from where did they come and to where do they return. We can also inquire as to the methods of their travel and we might find that what they do and how they do it might not be so incomprehensible now in light of our modern understandings of physics and technology.

There are many races of angels. Angels are messengers. Their job is to serve. Some serve in one way, in one place and others in a different place and manner. In order for us to understand anything about angelic matters going on around us, both on and off our world, we must begin with an understanding of just what type of being is the angel who interacts with us. What is an angel made of? If they can be corporeal, how is that possible? In order to understand the physics of an angel, we must first understand something about the physics of the universe at large.

According to ancient understanding, our physical world is formed with four elements, these being fire, air, water and earth. These elements are merely metaphors for the four forms of matter that we know as energy (fire), gas (air), liquid (water) and solid (earth). Human anatomy is said to be made of all four elements. Angelic anatomy, however, is said to include only two elements, those of fire and air. These angels in question therefore have a form consisting of energy and possibly gas. Is it possible for sentient consciousness to inhabit a form of pure energy or something as ethereal as a gas? According to the ancients the answer is a definitive yes.

Sentient consciousness is a funny thing. Modern science wants to speak about and look for life as we understand it, a carbon based physical form. Yet, even scientists, I

believe will admit that there may be forms of life so radically different from what we presently understand that we might not even recognize it as a sentient life form. This then describes the nature of one such race of beings, a specific race whose role it is to interact with humanity in some form of guardianship. In Hebrew they are called Malakhim, which in English should be properly translated as messengers. The term angel is nebulous at best and does not properly characterize the race to which the term is applied.

These entities, in their original indigenous state, consist of bodies of energy (and possibly gas). They then have some ability to congeal into a physical form, consisting of liquid and solid components, like us. Now, here is where we can use concepts of modern science to hypothesis just how they might be doing this.

Consider this, we are familiar with computer games and we are familiar with virtual reality. Let us say that I can put on a virtual reality suit and enter into the computer program to play the game. From the point of view of the characters in the game I am actually one of them, however different the rules of the program affect me and not them.

If, for example, I am playing a war game, the computer characters can get shot and die, never to return to active play. I, on the other hand, can reset the playing mode and get shot numerous times, die numerous times and still come back every time to continue playing. I know what I am doing and there certainly is nothing miraculous about it. However, if a computerized game character was generated with artificial intelligence and could view itself as a sentient being (however artificial), it would view me and my so-called powers and nothing short of miraculous or semi-Divine.

It is possible that from the "angelic" point of view, our world is nothing more than a virtual reality simulation and that we are each but players. The difference between the angels and us is that they are aware that they are playing a game and that the game is not reality, whereas we have become entrapped in the game and consider there to be no other reality. They thus come into and out of the game at will to try to reach us and get us to take off our virtual reality suits to remember the greater outside world.

While in the game they would appear as physical as we are (or in actuality are not). Yet, they would come and go according to the technology underlying the reality of computer tech. We, who are stuck in the game, unaware of computer tech, witness their comings and goings and interpret these beings as being something totally alien; life forms radically different from our own, possibly beings of pure energy, with nothing more than a form lighter than a gas.

I have just now described to you how the angelic visitors came to Avraham and had a meal with him. They were actually physically there, if we can apply the term physical to them, any more than we can to a virtual character in a computer game. From the point of view of the technology underlying the game, all characters in it (those visiting and those stuck within it) are nothing more than packets of electrical energy (neshamot, souls?). Yet, to those characters playing the game, their virtual reality is the only reality there is. There is no computer, no technology, no energy or the like. There is only the program, which the players interpret to be reality. This is the definition of a virtual reality; it is a convincing matrix and subjectively real to those therein.

Therefore, the two opinions of our Sages are both correct. Angels are both corporeal and non-corporeal entities simultaneously. It all depends upon how we are viewing the entity at the moment, as either being inside or outside the program.

For that matter, we human beings ourselves are also inside and outside the program simultaneously. That is why our human minds are split between what we psychologically refer to as the conscious and unconscious parts of the mind. The conscious part exists within the virtual reality of our present matrix. Our unconscious part exists in an entirely different dimensional plane, one so foreign to our conscious minds, that we cannot experience it and what little that is experienced is totally confusing.

The only way out of virtual reality is obviously to connect to that part of us that is outside of it. Yet, that part of our minds has the virtual reality helmet on it, and the virtual signal deters our mental focus. Due to the nature of the game, we may not be able to remove our virtual helmets, but even while wearing them, we can remember that we are actually game players sitting in place somewhere very far away. If we remember who we really are, then we can activate all the extra rules designed for aware players. We can cease being mere computer characters of artificial intelligence and awaken to become actual players subject to using the controls of the game. Avraham was such an awakened player, so was Moshe Rabbeynu, Eliyahu HaNavi and many others. They knew the game book and had the "cheat sheet."

So, the next time we talk about angels, we should recognize how simple we may sound, talking about a reality that is anything other than simple. We do not have to concern ourselves whether or not angels actually have wings, multiple faces or the like. Who cares what they (and we) actually look like without our virtual suits. All we need to understand is that they are here with us, right here and right now. They can pop in on us just as we can pop into our favorite computer game. They can come and go in time and space, with what for them, is nothing more than a click of the mouse. The great revelation here is that we can do the same, if only we wake up and properly play the game.