

Angels

1745 December 27 (Friday). P.M. Mr. Matthias Rice and Mr. Thomas Goodenow here. They told me that Mr. Wheeler had said among them [the Northside People] and particularly to Mr. Livermore that he was advis'd by an Angel to turn among them; and also in what he did in going over to Mr. Martyn (at the Time that their Committee went to Carry his Call) that it was the Angel of the Church in Westborough. I reply'd that Mr. Wheeler was here, but that I refus'd to meddle with their Affair: nor did then see Mr. Wheelers Paper not a word of it nor know I what was in it. And this I now repeated to them, that I did not desire to have Concern with their Affairs nor to meddle with them.

1746 September 1 (Monday). Tis not a little dull without my Dear Consort — but how is it with them who part for 5 nay 10 Times so long? How lonely soever I am, yet how happy is She in the Embraces of her dear Pierpoint? She has so many articles to reveal and to hear that She can have little Leisure to think of what she has left behind. But how Ardent and United were we this Day Nine Year ago! when our Nuptials were Celebrated at Mr. Pierpoints at Boston. The Lord has pleas'd to overlook the many miscarriages and Defects which we have been chargeable with since, especially my own! and make us Mutually Blessings, and Helps to the Kin of God! O how soon the Time will come when there will be neither marrying nor giving in Marriage, but the Saints shall be as the Angels of God!

1747 October 7 (Wednesday). We were Somewhat disturb'd by a Crew of Indians with a Violin last night while we were o'Bed. But through Divine Mercy I rose well and rode (alone) to Mr. Samuel Brecks in North Sutton. Mr. Turners Church in Rehoboth did not come. But the following Churches came, viz. of Oxford, first in Sutton, first in Westborough, of Uxbridge, second in Lynn, Southborough, Worcester, Wilmington. Reverend Campbell was chose Moderator and I was Chosen Scribe. N.B. My Brethren Williams and Miller satisfy'd themselves about joining with the first Church in Sutton, by discoursing with Mr. Campbell. Mr. Wellman was somewhat carefully examin'd yet gave the Council good Satisfaction, both praying and delivering part of a sermon before the Council also. In the public Assembly Mr. Chase deliver'd a very good sermon on Rev. 1.20, those words, the angels of the Churches.

1758 January 22 (Sunday). Another Snow storm, and Cold. Read part of Ch. 26 of 1 Chron. Preached on *Rom.* 8.28. Those words especially — *The Called according to His purpose*. P.M. read *Look.* 14 and preached on 2 *Pet.* 2.4 of Evil Angels. Used the sermon on *Ps.* 2.6 in the Discourses of the Government of Christ begun on *Isa.* 9.6. O that God would pardon my great Defects, and accept and Bless my broken and imperfect Endeavours!

1766 December 16 (Tuesday). Mr. Fessenden here. As he yesterday broached Some peculiar Notions about the Trinity, this Eve he goes on further therein. The Sum is, That there is no *Trinity*, but with respect to our Redemption. That there is no son of God before the New Testament. That there is not eternal Gen[eratio?]n. That Jesus is no otherwise the Son of God than as he was *divinely* conceived and born when he was so of the Virgin Mary. That the Father was the Author of the Old Creation, the Material Heavens and the Earth; the son whom he believes to be *God*, is Author of the *New* — that is, the Evangelic Oeconomy: And as for *Joh.* 1.1 and *Col.* 1.15.16.17 those Passages are to be taken Spiritually, and not literally. And whatever is

said of him in the old Testament, it was Spoken Prophetically and would not take place till his Conception and Birth of *Mary*. As to the Appearances of old, to *Abraham*, *Moses*, *Joshua*, etc., they were Angels, Special and eminent, as the Angel of Gods Presence etc. I had Shewed him *Turretine* etc. —but it was of no avail. He would adhere to *the Bible*, in interpreting which we made many Mysterys where there was none. He took leave, designing to go upon his Journey tomorrow: and I took leave, assuring him that I could not go to *Walpole*, and praying that God might be with him to give him *Light* and *Grace*, and *prepare him for His service*.

1768 June 19 (Sunday). Read Jer. 24. Preached on 1 *Tim.* 3.16, “Seen of Angels.” P.M. read Act. 25, and on Consideration of the Troubles and Tumults at Boston, and sorrowful state of our public Affairs, and likewise the unseasonable weather, repeated (with may Omissions and Alterations indeed) Sermon on *Isa.* 9.12.13.

1768 July 3 (Sunday). Read Jer. 25. Preached on 1 *Tim.* 3.16 — “Seen of Angels.” Capt. Jamison dined here. P.M. read Act. 26. Preached on Col. 3.4. N.B. used what I formerly delivered on this Text — but that preparation being unfinished, I composed Addition to it, and the whole of the Improvement.

1768 July 31 (Sunday). Read Jer. 29. Preached on 1 *Tim.* 3.16, “Seen of Angels.” Master *Jamison* dined here. P.M. read *Rom.* 2. Preached on 1 *Tim.* 3.16, “Preached unto the Gentiles.” Read Deacon Woods Address to the Pastor and Church containing his and his Wife’s Acknowledgment before the Congregation.

1774 August 23 (Tuesday). Read Dr. *Increase Mathers Angelographia*. Mr. Caleb Wilder dined here: tarrys over night.

1775 August 31 (Thursday). *John* can get no Rest — wants to be moved often, but is less able to move himself — worries through the Night. I wrote to Mr. *Quincy* and Sent him one of F. *Brecks* Shrewsbury Sermons; by Mr. *Loyd*, who, and my son *Ebenezer* leave us to go to their respective Homes or Abodes. *John’s* Visage alters — is apprehensive that Death is not far off. Says that in his sleep he saw an Angel of Light coming to him. I told him that no stress could be laid on these Things: but that he must rely only on Such Evidences as the [*illegible*] infallible word of God sets before us.

1777 March 10 (Monday). Read part of Dr. *I. Mathers Angelographia*, viz. the Case of Conscience concerning *Angelical Apparitions*.

1779 July 1 (Thursday). Read part of Dr. Cotton Mather’s *Agathangelus* and *Celestinus*. Thus far it appears to be a very useful quickening Book. I have reason to bless God and would heartily do so, for the eminent Writings of that pious and learned man.

1781 February 2 (Friday). Young *Frederic Parker* here, having been to *Hopkinton* and bought of Mr. *Barrett* his Saddle-Baggs full of Books. Several of which I borrow of him. Ex. gr. *Jameson’s* Sum of the Episcopal Controversie: Dr. *I. Mathers* Angelogr.

1781 February 4 (Sunday). I had designed to preach what I have been preparing on Ps. 20.5, but

it proved a very stormy day, and very few at Meeting. I did therefore again lay those Preparations aside; and I delivered a.m. another Exercise on *Ezek.* 48.35, last Clause, and p.m. on *Rom.* 6.1.2. At Eve Mr. *Brigham* read the Close of Mr. *Flavels* Sermon 11 on *Rev.* 3.20. N.B. We after Family Exercise read Dr. In. *Mathers* Disquisition on *Angelical Apparitions*.

1781 February 12 (Monday). I read Dr. I. *Mathers* *Angelography*: and Case of Conscience concerning *Angelical Apparitions*. How exceeding plain yet solemn!

1781 February 13 (Tuesday). I finished Dr. *Mathers* *Angelography*.