

# Volume I - Chapter 6

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# Angelic Realm

God has created powerful spirit beings as His aides, agents, and messengers. Since man was created, these spirit beings, called *angels* in the English Bible, function as ministering spirits to help mankind attain salvation. Like man, angels have free moral agency. Although created to help God, some of them—led by Satan the devil—rebelled against God’s government transforming themselves into demons.

# Angelic Realm

*English word “angel” comes from the Greek word angelos which means “messenger” or “agent”. Hebrew word malak has the same meaning.*

**God has assigned angels various responsibilities. Hebrews 1:14 states they are also to help man attain salvation.**

**Matthew 18:10 suggests that God’s angels watch over God’s converted sons.**

Before the time of man, God created powerful spirit beings (Job 38:7) in vast numbers (Revelation 5:11). Although created before and on a higher plane than man, these beings will eventually be under man in authority when humanity has entered God’s family (Hebrews 2:7-8).

Specific types of angels are described as follows:

- **Cherubim** are explained in Ezekiel 1 and 10 as having four wings and four faces (of a lion, ox, eagle and man) and covering (or carrying) God’s throne.
- **Seraphim** are “full of eyes before and behind,” having six wings and appearing either like a lion, a calf, an eagle or with the face of a man (Isaiah 6:2-3; Revelation 4:6-8).
- **Twenty-four elders** who apparently serve as counselors for God Himself (Revelation 4:4, 10-11).

Angels have at times appeared on earth as men (Genesis 19:1-2), although it is not revealed whether this indeed can be their actual form, or whether they had assumed the appearance of humans for their visit.

The exact way or manner in which angels minister to men is not comprehensively described in the Bible, but there are some allusions and references:

- Cherubim were sent to guard the way to the tree of life after Adam and Eve had been cast from the garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24).
- Parts of the law were given by the angels (Acts 7:35; Galatians 3:19; Hebrews 2:2).
- Angelic beings came to tell Abraham that he would have a son (Genesis 18).
- Angels rescued Lot from the city of Sodom before it burned (Genesis 19).
- Angels ministered to Jesus after He withstood Satan for forty days and nights (Matthew 4:11).

**Satan is called the god of this world.  
(II Corinthians 4:4)**

**He is the accuser of the brethren.  
(Revelation 12:10)**

**Satan "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."  
(I Peter 5:8)**

**Satan will flee from us if we resist him and draw near to God (James 4:7-8).**

Long before man, one of the cherubim, his name in Latin is the familiar word Lucifer, had the honor of covering the very throne of God (Ezekiel 28:14). However, he was lifted up in his own vanity, became resentful and jealous of God, and finally rebelled against God's government. He drew with him as cohorts a third of the angels. These became evil angels or demons with Lucifer, now Satan the devil, as their leader.

A primary battle of a Christian is "against wicked spirits in high places" (Ephesians 6:12). It is a battle to resist the influences of Satan and his demons against a person's mind.

God has given us the means to fight this spiritual battle. We must "put on the whole armor of God...to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Ephesians 6:11). This spiritual armor includes;

- truth, righteousness ( Ephesians 6:14),
- peace (v. 15),
- faith (v. 16),
- salvation, the Word of God (v. 17),
- prayer and supplication (v. 18).

While angels are now above man in authority, they are not to be worshipped or prayed to, nor regarded as mediator between God and man (Colossians 2:17).

God is in supreme command and is only temporarily allowing Satan to influence man within certain confines (Job 1). This process actually enables man to build greater character by resisting Satan and by learning how to rely more on God.

During the millennial rule of Christ, Satan is to be removed from the world scene along with his demons. Jesus Christ will replace Satan as the ruler of this world (II Corinthians 4:4 and Revelation 20:4-5). Following the millennium, Satan is to be released for a short span of time and then finally to be removed to a place of restraint for all eternity where he and his demons can no longer affect men or angels. The faithful angels who have followed God throughout these countless eons of time will continue as servants of the greatly expanded family of God for all eternity.

## Lesson 1

# The Armor of God

*Bible Story:*  
*Ephesians 6:10-18*

### Focus:

- How to resist Satan's attack.

### Purpose:

- To know why we need God's armor.
- To understand what to do with the armor of God.
- To feel secure using the armor of God.

### Memory Verse:

- Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

## Generate Interest

What is armor and does anyone today wear armor?

Roman soldiers wore armor. Paul compares God's armor to each piece of a Roman soldier's armor.

Give some examples of people who wear armor today. Such as;

- Astronauts.
- Football players.
- Deep sea divers.
- Police officers.

We cannot see spiritual armor. The armor of a soldier was used by Paul as an object lesson.

The book of Ephesians was written by Paul, and is one of four letters written while he was a prisoner. Paul's letters did not just go to one person, they were shared with groups of churches around Ephesus. The area around Ephesus is now known as western Turkey. Point Turkey out on a map to your children.

Paul emphasizes unity in the book of Ephesians. Unity between individuals, family, marriage, work, and church. When we have unity and mutual respect we show love, Godly love.

This letter from Paul is a warning. He warns that Satan is active in his struggle against God. Satan is our enemy as individuals, and as a church.

## The Armor Of God

Be truthful and honest.

Satan is the father of lies  
(John 8:44).

Jesus is of truth  
(John 14:6).

Righteous living is essential.

When you choose to do what is right, instead of what is wrong, you put on the breastplate of righteousness.

Free yourself from greed, improprieties.

### Strong Belt Of Truth

*"Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth,"*

A Roman soldier would have a belt around his middle. This belt would protect him. How do we put on the belt of truth?

1. We attend church, study our Bible, and memorize scripture.
2. We speak truthfully with honesty and openness.

### Breastplate Of Righteousness

*"...having put on the breastplate of righteousness,"*

A Roman soldier's breastplate would cover him from his neck to his waist, both the front and back. What vital organ would be protected? That's correct, his heart! Our hearts need protection. We have God's approval when we trust in Him. When God approves of our choices, he protects our hearts, our feelings, our feelings of self-worth. How do we put on the breastplate of righteousness?

1. Tell the truth, above all do not lie.
2. Be kind, not hateful.

# The Armor of God

## Shoes

*"and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;"*

Jesus Christ is our peace  
(Ephesians 2:14).

The Gospel brings peace.

Peace is the glue that bonds us  
together. Peace makes us  
one.

A Roman soldier's shoes were not as sophisticated as our shoes are today. However, they did have protection when they went to battle. Their shoes were made of leather with hobnails in the soles of the shoe. When your feet hurt, you are uncomfortable. To be surefooted, you need strong, not slippery shoes. How do we put on the shoes of the gospel of peace?

1. Pray each day and ask for God's peace.
2. See yourself as God sees you; loved and forgiven.
3. Be kind and forgiving to others even when they hurt you.

## Shield of Faith

Hebrews 10:23 "Let us hold  
fast the confession of our hope  
without wavering, for He who  
promised is faithful."

Actively doing what you believe  
in, even when there are some  
doubts, is FAITH.

*"above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."*

As double protection, the Roman soldier carried a large wooded shield. This gave the soldier additional protection from the enemies, arrows. The enemies would often set their arrows on fire before shooting them. Hence, the comparison to Satan. Satan as well throws fiery darts of temptation, insults, etc. at us. How do we fight this attack, and how do we put on the shield of faith?

1. Never doubt God, have complete confidence in His promises.
2. Believe in the reality of God's power.
3. Believe in God's love.

## Helmet of Salvation

Satan wants to attack the  
Christian mind.

Romans 8:1

"There is therefore now no  
condemnation to those who  
are in Christ Jesus, who do not  
walk according to the flesh, but  
according to the Spirit."

*"And take the helmet of salvation,"*

Your head is important. Do you wear a helmet when you ride a bike, rollerblade, skateboard or play football? Sure you do. Why? Because, just as the Roman soldier did not want his head hurt in battle, you do not want to hurt your head when you play. How do you put on the helmet of salvation?

1. Be aware of what you allow to enter your mind.
2. Be careful what you watch on TV, listen to on the radio, and what you read.
3. Concentrate on Jesus, and His truth.

# The Armor of God

## Sword Of The Spirit

We are fighting a spiritual battle, not a battle of flesh and blood.

If your child does not have their own Bible, I suggest you get them one.

Stress the importance of taking care of it, and reading from it each day.

*"...and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*

A Roman soldier had a sword that was made of steel and was very sharp. We are not talking about that kind of a sword. A spiritual battle can only be won with God's power. A steel sword becomes dull after many uses. This is not true of your spiritual sword. The more you study the Bible and learn scripture, the sharper your spiritual sword becomes. How do we put on the sword of the spirit?

1. Take time every day to read your Bible.
2. Take care of your Bible.
3. Memorize scripture.

## Prayer and Supplication

*"praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance..."*

I Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

A Roman soldier, or any soldier for that matter keeps in constant contact with his commander and chief. This is especially true while in battle. We need to keep in contact with God. We do this through prayer. We need to pray daily for direction. Be aware of your enemy, the devil, and stay in touch with your commander, God the Father, and Jesus Christ.



## Lesson 2

# Abraham Entertains Angels

*Bible Story:*  
*Genesis 18 :1-14; 21:1-7*

### Focus:

- God fulfilled a promise to Abraham.

### Purpose:

- God came in the form of angels to tell Abraham that he and Sarah would have a son.
- To know it was God, not the angels, that gave Abraham his son.
- To believe God is faithful to His promises.

### Memory Verse:

- Psalm 91:11 "For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways."

## Generate Interest

At least seven of the twelve disciples were fishermen.

While you teach this lesson, serve your children a snack of crackers, cheese, dates, raisins, fruit and olives. During Bible times, cereal crops, fruit, and vegetables were the main sources of food.

Not much meat was eaten, Mutton, and goat's meat was the most common. Fish was an important food during New Testament times.

Tents as homes.

First reference to tents in the Bible (Genesis 4:20).

The man Jabal is called "the father of those who live in tents."

Abraham lived as a nomad. A nomad is someone who moves from place to place with his flocks and herds.

Tents, during Abraham's time, were made by spinning cloth from camels' and goats' hair. During the hot months, they would draw the tent doors up enabling a breeze to blow through the tent. After the first rain, the hairs would shrink together making the tent waterproof.

It would take several people to set up a tent such as this. Can you imagine how heavy this tent was to transport?

## Synopsis

Mamre was close to the city of Hebron.

The Arabic name for Mamre is Ramat el-khlil which means "the high place of the friend of God."

Cultural emphasis on preparing a meal for strangers.

Abraham served more than a morsel of food. There were cakes, veal, butter, milk.

Read The Bible Story:  
Genesis 18:1-14, 21:1-7.

When Abraham left his native home of Ur in Mesopotamia he did so out of obedience to God. Abraham traveled to many places. He went to Haran, Canaan and Egypt. Lot was Abraham's nephew and he traveled with him. Due to a quarrel between the herdsmen, Abraham and Lot parted ways. Lot had moved to a city called Sodom which at that time was involved in a war. Lot was captured and Abraham rescued him. Then, one day, God came to visit Abraham in the form of angels, clothed in men's bodies.

The Old and New Testament taught the importance of hospitality. Hebrews 13:2 "Remember to welcome strangers in your homes."

Abraham's example of hospitality;

- Abraham went out to greet his guests.
- Abraham humbly addressed them as Lord.
- Abraham bowed to the ground.
- Abraham washed their feet.
- Abraham served them a feast.

### Questions

1. What is a promise?
2. Who promised Abraham and Sarah a son?
3. Did Abraham and Sarah believe the promise?
4. Explain Abraham's hospitality.
5. Did God keep His promise?

When talking a lesson over,  
ask open-ended questions.

What if you had to entertain an  
angel?

### **Talk It Over**

The angels that appeared before Abraham were messengers of God. They were there to tell Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son. God is a faithful God. We can have confidence that God will do what He says. Praise and give Him thanks.

## Lesson 3

# Destruction of Sodom

*Bible Story:*  
*Genesis 19:1-30*

### Focus:

- Pursue making right choices

### Purpose:

- To know God is there to protect us.
- To have a desire to please God.
- To feel confident when making right choices.

### Memory Verses:

- I Timothy 6:11 "But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness."
- I Corinthians 10:13 "...God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

## Generate Interest

Heeding a warning.

A policeman comes to your door telling you that you and your family must leave your home at once. Your entire town is going to be under water within minutes because the levee broke.

- Would you heed the warning ?
- Would you want to save your neighbors?

Abraham trusted God, and allowed Lot first choice of the land.

Making the right choices in life is important. Praying and reading the Bible will help you make right choices. Lot had the opportunity to choose land. He chose the green fertile plain of the Jordan. (Genesis 13:9-11). Lot moved to the city of Sodom.

Think about decisions you have to make on a daily basis.

- If doing wrong doesn't hurt anyone, then it's okay.
- Having lots of money means you are successful.
- Sex outside of marriage is okay.
- Watching inappropriate TV or reading bad books won't harm you.

1 Timothy 6:11 "But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness."

## Synopsis

Read the Bible Story:  
Genesis 19:1-30.

After Lot and Abraham's herdsmen quarrelled, Lot moved away. Lot moved to a city called Sodom. Angels of the Lord appeared to Abraham and told him that he and Sarah would have a child. In addition, the angels told Abraham that Sodom would be destroyed.

The city gate was an important place  
Rules of hospitality.

Lot met the two angels at the city gate. The city gate, where judges sat and rendered judgment, Lot was a judge, was the focus of city life. It was there that men would gather to talk, settle disputes, and conduct business (2 Peter 2:7,8).

God sent angels to warn Lot of the destruction of Sodom.

Once again, it was the rules of hospitality that demanded Lot protect his guests (Genesis 19:6-9).

Even though Lot was tired of his wicked friends, it was difficult, because he had responsibilities, for him to leave Sodom (Genesis 19:15-22, 26).

Lot lost his wife, his home, and all of his physical possessions.

## Important Points To Remember

Peter has a good word to say about Lot.

II Peter 2:7 "and delivered **righteous** Lot,..."

Ask, what does righteous mean? Answer; it means to be just, upright, acting according to what is right. Use the example of when your child attends school or goes out to dinner. You, as their parent, expect them to conduct themselves in a proper manner, whether you are with them or not.

What kind of a father would throw his daughters to a mob? How could a man such as this be righteous? Was Lot really sending them out of the house for the mob to have their way with them? Consider these verses;

Lot's sons-in-law had their own political agenda, that of homosexuality.

- Genesis 19:8 "See now, I have two daughters who have not known a man;"
- Genesis 19:14 "So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters,..."

Why had Lot's daughters not known a man if they were married? Could it be that his sons-in-law were homosexuals, and they were the leaders of the mob?

The sons-in-law did not heed the warning Lot gave them.

Lot chose the way that led to Sodom, however he did not choose the abominations of his environment. Lot tried to keep his household pure. He tried to help his sons-in-law turn their lives around. They did not heed the warning.

### Talk It Over

God provides a way to escape sin (I Corinthians 10:13). Do not compromise yourself. Build character and change the TV station when an inappropriate program comes on. Do not read books or magazines that are unhealthy for your mind. Pursue diligently what is right, what is just. Read your Bible daily, and pray to God. Ask God for help, guidance and wisdom.

## Lesson 4

# Peter In Prison

*Bible Story:*  
*Acts 12:1-19*

### Focus:

- Trust in God, He will deliver you.

### Purpose:

- To have confidence in God.
- To pray always.

### Memory Verse:

- Psalm 56:3 "Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You."

## Generate Interest

Prayer is important.

Family prayer.

When you hear that someone is sick or has fallen on hard times, do you pray for them? Children learn to pray by hearing prayers. Each family member takes a turn talking with God. After family prayer, this is a good time to read your Bible, explaining to your children that now God is talking to you.

**Read Psalm 95:1-6** to your children. God made us, He is holy, He is perfect, and He does want to hear from us. Teach your children to spend time praising God for His power, His creation, and His perfection.

What does it mean to have confidence? Do you have confidence in God?

The story in Acts 12:1-19 is an inspiring story that you and your children will certainly enjoy. Some points to remember as you read this story;

- The church expressed concern for Peter by praying for him.
- God gave a speedy answer to their prayers.
- We should believe in prayer.
- The story features a young girl named Rhoda.

## Synopsis

Peter was a leader of the apostles and of the early church.

At the beginning, Peter preached only to the Jews. God gave Peter a special dream to show him that he was to preach the truth of God to the Gentiles. It was about this time that King Herod began persecuting believers, killed James the brother of John and threw Peter into prison.

When Jesus called Peter to be a disciple, He changed his name from Simon to Peter, which means "little stone".

Herod referred to in Acts 12 is Herod Agrippa I, one of many men to have the name "Herod," which is synonymous with "king". This king was one of the worst kings. As a young boy, he neglected his studies, and instead spent his money like there was no tomorrow. By the time he died, he had a very large debt.

### Four Squads of Soldiers

The Roman soldier would divide the night into four three-hour periods from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. These four times were known as the evening, midnight, cockcrowing, and dawn watches.

### Feast of Unleavened Bread

This story takes place during the Days of Unleavened Bread.



Read the Bible Story.

Discuss the events that took place after reading the story.

Why did God allow Peter to be thrown in jail?  
There is a purpose for everything God does.

Trials test our faith and produce patience (James 1:2-4).

- King Herod persecutes the church and kills James.
- Peter is arrested and put in jail.
- The church prays for Peter.
- Peter sleeps. This is an example of Peter's complete confidence in God.
- Peter is exhorted out of prison by an angel.
- Peter knew that it was the Lord who had delivered him from prison, the angel was the tool, (verse 11).
- Peter went to Mary's home.
- Rhoda, the little girl was so excited to see Peter that she did not let him in the gate, instead she ran to tell the others.
- When they finally let Peter in, they were astonished to see him.
- Once again Peter said, "the Lord had brought him out of the prison."

### **Talk It Over**

The church was enduring a tremendous amount of persecution at this time. Peter being brought out of prison as he was, must have encouraged them. Their trust in God was strengthened. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God. We believe in God. Take courage and joy from this story. When you have troubles, go to God and pray about it. He will listen. Let's be reminded of Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

# Facts About Angels

*The word "angel" means  
messenger,  
Angels were created  
(Psalm 148:5).*

We are not to worship  
angels  
(Colossians 2:17, 18).  
Angels worship God  
(Hebrews 1:6).

The idea is not to frighten your  
children with the facts about  
angels and demons. It is  
important they know they are  
real.

Jesus Christ has power over  
fallen angels (Mark 1:32-34).

There is a place that God  
has prepared for Satan and  
the demons to spend eternity  
(Revelation 20:10).

There were millions of angels created (Revelation 5:11) before Adam and Eve were created. Angels are mentioned 248 times in the Bible. While it is important to know that angels are real, and that they play an important part in the plan of God, we are not to worship them. Here are some interesting facts about angels:

To begin, what are some specific types of angels, and what is their job?

- **Cheribim**-They guarded the way to the tree of life in the Garden of Eden. Cherubim were used to decorate the tabernacle.
- **Seraphim**-They are attendants at the throne of God (Isaiah 6:2,6).
- **Archangle**-The angel Michael is the only archangel (I Thes. 4:16). Michael was the guardian angel of Israel (Daniel 10:21; 12:1). He leads the armies against Satan (Revelation 12:7).
- **Gabriel**- His name means "hero of God". He carries important messages from God to individuals. It was the angel Gabriel that told Mary she would conceive the Son of God (Luke 1:26-35).
- **Satan**- He belongs to the group of angels called cherubim. Before Satan rebelled against God his name was Lucifer and he had the honor of covering God's throne (Ezekiel 28:14). Satan means:
  - Adversary, opposer (Zech. 3:1; Matt 4:10; Rev 12:9; 20:2).
  - Devil, slanderer (Matt 4:1; Ephesians 4:27).
  - Evil one (John 17:15, I John 5:18-19).
- **Satan is described as:** a serpent (Genesis 3:1), as a great red dragon (Revelation 12:3, 7, 9). Do not take these scriptures lightly. I Peter 5:8, "Satan prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."
- **Demons**- They are evil spirits, unclean spirits that serve Satan (Matthew 17:18, Mark 9:25, and Luke 10:17-20).

## What do angels look like?

Exodus 25:17-20.

When the tabernacle was being built, God ordered two cherubim to stretch out their wings over the mercy seat.

- Cherubim and seraphim have wings (Isaiah 6:2 and Ezekiel 1:5-8).
- Angels are spirit beings.
- Angels have appeared as a man (Genesis 18:1,2, 16, 22, 19:1).
- Angels have appeared in great beauty and light (Luke 2:9, Acts 12:7).

Angels watch over us (Hebrews 1:13,14 and Psalm 34:7; 91:11).

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### Why were angels created?

- To be God's messengers (Genesis 22:11,12; Acts 10:3).
- To praise God (Psalm 148:1-2).
- To worship God (Revelation 5:8-13).
- To rejoice (Job 38:6-7).
- To comfort (Genesis 28:11-13).
- To be used by God for judgment (Isaiah 37:36, Rev. 7:1, 8:2).

## Conclusion

God does not have to use angels to do things. It is God's decision (Acts 12:7-10). Now compare that with what Peter says in verse 17.

Angels are not greater than man. Jesus did not die for the sins of angels, but for the sins of mankind. Therefore, man, not angels, will receive salvation.

I Corinthians 6:3  
"Do you not know that we shall judge angels?"

It is a practical and important fact that angels are organized under God's direction. Satan and his demons are organized. It only makes sense that we become organized to fight our biggest adversary, Satan the devil. Know your enemy and pray to God for His help and protection.