

ANGELIC REBELLION

CONCEPT

God is greater and more powerful than Satan.

GOAL

Christian students will learn that those who have the life of Christ do not have to fear the devil because “greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world.”

Non-Christian students will learn that angels are real; some are good and some evil.

PASSAGE: Ezekiel 28:12-19; James 4:7

Key Verse: “... greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.” I John 4:4b “See how much our heavenly Father loves us, for he allows us to be called his children...!” 1 John 3:1a (NLT)

PLANNING AHEAD*

Lesson Supplies

Introduction/Instruction:

- *Children’s Illustrated Bible*, Selina Hastings
- *Children’s Bible Dictionary*, Lynn Waller
- *Adventure Bible Handbook*, Zondervan Publishing House
- *On the Wings of Angels*, Gail Harvey
- Angelic representations
- *Grandpa’s Box*, Starr Meade

Optional Activity:

- CD player/OT Books of the Bible CD

Craft Supplies

Activity Stations:

- NIV Bible for crossword puzzle reference
- “Some Angels in the Bible” crossword puzzles, 1/student
- Printed bookmarks, 1/student
- Hemp twine, 4½ ft./student
- Yard sticks, 2/class
- Hole punch
- Crayons or Markers
- Transparent tape

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* **Teachers please note:** For clarity, the shaded areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag. Items followed by an asterisk* are to be supplied by the teaching team.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION / TEACHER HELPS

There is so much fascination with angels and the angelic realm in our culture today that it is crucial for the students to determine how and where to find the truth. We must look at what the Bible says to get a clear picture of who these creatures are and what they do. Following is Lewis Chafer's comprehensive description of angels.

A. *The Nature of Angels*

According to Scripture, long before the creation of man God created an innumerable company of beings named angels. Like men, they have personality and are capable of great intelligence and moral responsibility. The word "angel" means messenger and, while referring to a special class of beings, the term is sometimes employed of others who are messengers...

When not used in reference to men or God Himself, the term is used of a distinct order of beings who, like man, have moral responsibility and who are servants of God in the moral sphere. Like man, angels continue forever and are distinct from all other created beings. They form a prominent part of God's program for the ages and are mentioned over a hundred times in the Old Testament and even more frequently in the New Testament.

Angels apparently were all created simultaneously and were innumerable in number (Heb. 2:22; Rev. 5:11). They have all the essential elements of personality including intelligence, moral will, and sensibility or emotion and, accordingly, are able to render intelligent worship of God (Ps. 148:2). They are also held responsible for the quality of their service and their moral choices."

Their natures do not include bodies unless they are bodies of a spiritual order (1 Cor. 15:44), although they may be seen at times in bodies and appear as men (Matt. 28:3; Rev. 15:6; 18:1). They do not experience increase in number through birth nor do they experience physical death or cessation of existence. Thus, while they are similar to man in personality, they differ from man in many important particulars.

B. *The Unfallen Angels*

Angels generally fall into two major classifications: (1) the unfallen angels, (2) the fallen angels. The first classification are those who have remained holy throughout their existence and thus accordingly are called 'holy angels' (Matt. 25:31). In Scripture, generally, when angels are referred to, the unfallen angels are in view. By contrast, fallen angels are those who have not maintained their holiness.

Unfallen angels fall into special classes, and certain individuals are mentioned.

1. *Michael the archangel is the head of all the holy angels and his name means 'who is like unto God'* (Dan. 10:21; 12:1; 1 Thess. 4:16; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7-10).

2. *Gabriel is one of the principal messengers of God, his name meaning 'hero of God.'* He was entrusted with important messages such as those delivered to Daniel (Dan. 8:16; 9:21) the message to Zacharias (Luke 1:18-19), and the message to the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:26-38).

3. *Most angels are not given individual names but are described as elect angels* 1 Tim. 5:21)...

4. *The expressions 'principalities' and 'powers' seem to be used of all angels whether fallen or unfallen* (Luke 21:26; Rom. 8:38; Eph. 1:21; 3:10; Col. 1:16, 2:10,15; 1 Pet. 3:22). There is unceasing warfare between the holy angels and the fallen angels for control of men in history.

5. *Some angels are designated 'cherubim,' living creatures who defend God's holiness from a defilement of sin* (Gen. 3:24; Exod. 25:18; Ezek. 1:1-18). Satan, the head of fallen angels, was originally created holy for this purpose also (Ezek. 28:14). Angelic figures in the form of cherubim were made of gold overlooking the mercy seat of the ark and the Holy of Holies in both the Tabernacle and the Temple.

6. *Seraphim are mentioned only once in the Bible - in Isaiah 6:2-7.* They are described as having three pairs of wings, apparently have the function of praising God and being God's messengers to earth, and are especially concerned with the holiness of God.

7. *The term 'angel of Jehovah' is found frequently in the Old Testament to refer to appearances of Christ in the form of an angel.* The title belongs only to God and is used in connection with the divine manifestations in the earth, and therefore it is in no way to be included in the angelic hosts (Gen. 18:1-19:29; 22:11, 12; 31:11-13;

32:24-32; 48:15, 16; Josh. 5:13-15; Judg. 13:19-22; 2 Kings 19:35; 1 Chron. 21:12-30; Ps. 34:7). The strongest contrast between Christ, who is the Angel of Jehovah, and the angelic beings is presented in Hebrews 1:4-14.

C. The Fallen Angels

In contrast with the unfallen angels, an innumerable company of angels is described as fallen from their first estate. Led by Satan, who originally was a holy angel, an innumerable company of angels defected, rebelled against God, and became sinful in their nature and work.

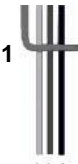



The fallen angels have been divided into two classes: (1) those who are free, and (2) those who are bound. Of the fallen angels, Satan alone is given particular mention in Scripture.

"It is probable that when Satan fell (John 8:44) he drew after him a multitude of lesser beings. Of these, some are reserved in chains unto judgment (1 Cor. 6:3; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6); the remainder are free and are the demons, or devils, to whom reference is constantly made throughout the New Testament (Mk. 5:9, 15; Luke 8:30; 1 Tim. 4:1). They are Satan's servants in all his undertakings and share his doom (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10)"¹

It is crucial that the students understand that angels are real; some are good and some evil. The devil is a powerful evil angel and his intentions are always evil. However, those who have the life of Christ do not have to fear the devil because "greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world." Our focus should be God's omnipotence, sovereignty, love and grace. If we submit to God and resist the devil he will flee (Jas. 4:7).

¹ Lewis Chafer, *Major Bible Themes*, Zondervan Publishing, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1974, pp. 151-155.

LESSON PLAN

<p>SET UP</p>	<p>The week before class: ***Practice the instructions for the square knot braid so you can help the students. ***</p>
<p>INCORPORATION 15-20 MIN</p>	<p>Activity Stations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Craft – Bookmarks</p> <p>Instructions: It is important that you practice the square knot instructions before class so you know how to help the students. Give each student a printed bookmark to cut out and decorate. Punch a hole in the top. Measure and cut one 3 foot and one 1½ foot piece of hemp per student. Fold each of the pieces of hemp in half and thread the closed ends through the hole in the bookmark. Push the ends of the hemp through the closed ends and pull them through and tighten. Tape the bookmark to the table to knot the hemp. The longer strands are used to knot around the shorter strands.</p> <p>To tie a square knot: Follow the instructions using the illustrations below.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-end;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1 234</p> <p>Cross 1 over 2, 3 & 4</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1 4 23</p> <p>Cross 1 over 2 & 3 then under 4</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1 4 23</p> <p>Cross 1 over 2 & 3 and under 4</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1 4 23</p> <p>Pass 4 under 2 & 3 then over 1 Tighten</p> </div> </div> <p>As the students work, talk about the key verse on the bookmarks. Tell them they can take them home to put in their Bibles. Each week they can move their bookmark to the passage they study in class.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Crossword Puzzle</p> <p>Instructions: Give each student a “Some Angels in the Bible” crossword puzzle and have them find the answers in the NIV Bible.</p> <p>Music</p> <p>Instructions: Practice the Books of the OT. See how far the students can get.</p> <p>Missions Prayer</p> <p>Instructions: Talk about and pray for Oasis Giving campaign and adopted missionary child.</p>
<p>INTRODUCTION/ INSTRUCTION -- LG GROUP 5 MIN</p>	<p>Teacher opens with prayer.</p> <p>When you think of angels what comes to mind? Have any of you ever thought about angels? Do you wonder what they are like? Do they have wings? Do they float around on clouds all day? What are some things you think and wonder about angels? (Allow students to respond.) We see a lot about angels today in books, magazines, and TV shows. (Show books.) What do you think an angel looks like? (Show them angelic representations.) We don't know exactly what angels look like. But many people have painted pictures of what they think angels look like.</p> <p>Do you think all angels are good? (Point to the picture of Satan.) Do you think he is an angel? He is an angel who chose to disobey God. We don't know exactly what he looks like, but he doesn't look like this! Do you think everything we see and hear about angels is true? Do you know that</p>

	<p>you can be sure you know what is true? The Bible tells us everything we need to know about angels.</p> <p>People in our culture today are very interested in spiritual things, especially angels. God created angels and there are hundreds of thousands of them. We don't know exactly what they look like, but the Bible says they are overwhelming.</p>
TRANSITION – 2 MIN	I am going to read from this book, <i>Grandpa's Box</i> .
LESSON – PART 1 LG GROUP 5 MIN	<p>Instructions: Read chapter 1, "The War" through the first half of chapter 2 "Sneak Attack," Grandpa's Box, pp. 15 – 17. STOP after "'Satan,' they answered together."</p> <p>Has anyone ever heard or read in the Bible about this war with Satan? Did you know that God created angels before He created people? Some angels chose to worship God, but some rebelled against God with Satan. The Bible calls them fallen angels, demons or devils.</p>
TRANSITION – 2 MIN	We're going to see a silly skit about 2 men who will tell us how to live trusting God rather than fearing Satan.
LEARNING ACTIVITY #1 – LG GROUP 10 MIN	DRAMA --"In God's Gym" skit presented by drama team
TRANSITION – 2 MIN	Let's go back to our rooms and read what the Bible says about these fallen angels. Everyone grab a Bible.
LESSON -- PART 2 LG GROUP 5 MIN	<p>Open your Bibles to Ezekiel 28:12-15 and follow along as I read. Satan was a very wise and beautiful creation of God. He was proud because of the beauty God had given him. When he rebelled God sent him to earth away from God's presence. The Bible tells us that the whole world lies in the power of Satan, the evil one. However, God still has all power even though Satan rules. Our key verse is "... greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (I John 4:4).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is "He who is in you"? • Who is "He who is in the world"? • Is God in everyone? (No.) Why isn't God in everyone? (We are all born separated from God. God is only within us when we admit we need His forgiveness and ask Christ to pay for our sins. Then He is in us.) <p>God's Incredible Plan is that everyone has an opportunity to be in relationship and live forever with Him. Because God is greater than Satan, He makes sure everyone knows that He exists and that He wants a relationship with us. He gives Christians the power to fight Satan.</p>
TRANSITION – 2 MIN	Let's get into our small groups to talk about this some more.
LEARNING ACTIVITY #2 – SM GROUPS 10 MIN Rationale: to apply scripture to real life.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you know what God's plan is for Satan? Turn to Revelation 20, verse 10. The Bible tells us that God has already won because Christ died on the cross and paid for the sins of the world. "... greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (I John 4:4). • What are some of the lies Satan tells you to try to keep you from God? (Some suggestions to get the discussion going: He lies to us about God and tries to convince us that God is against us. He lies to us about ourselves and tells us that we need to have certain clothes, toys, etc. to be accepted by other people. He lies to us about what is really important so we won't read the Bible or pray. He tells us that only stupid or weird people spend time praying or reading the Bible. He tells us that what people think is more important than what God thinks.) <p>Now that you know how he works, what can you do to make sure that he doesn't fool you? James 4:7 says, "Submit to God, resist the devil and he will flee." Submit means to agree and obey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it look like to submit to God? (Believe that God is good and He always wants what is good for us. Ask Jesus into our lives so His Spirit will live in us, protect, teach and change

	<p>us. Ask God to show us the lies Satan is telling us. Read, study and do what the Bible says. Talk to God. Be willing to let God teach us through other people who know more about the Bible than we do and have walked with God longer. Be willing to admit when we are wrong, be corrected by others and ask God to change us to be more like Him.)</p> <p>Let's pray. If you have not yet asked Jesus for forgiveness, you can do that at any time. Those of us who are Christians can thank God that we don't have to be afraid because all His power is with us. Let's pray that God will continue to remind us that He is greater and He has already won.</p>
OPTIONAL ACTIVITY	Angels Instructions: Look through the books about angels & discuss with students who are interested.

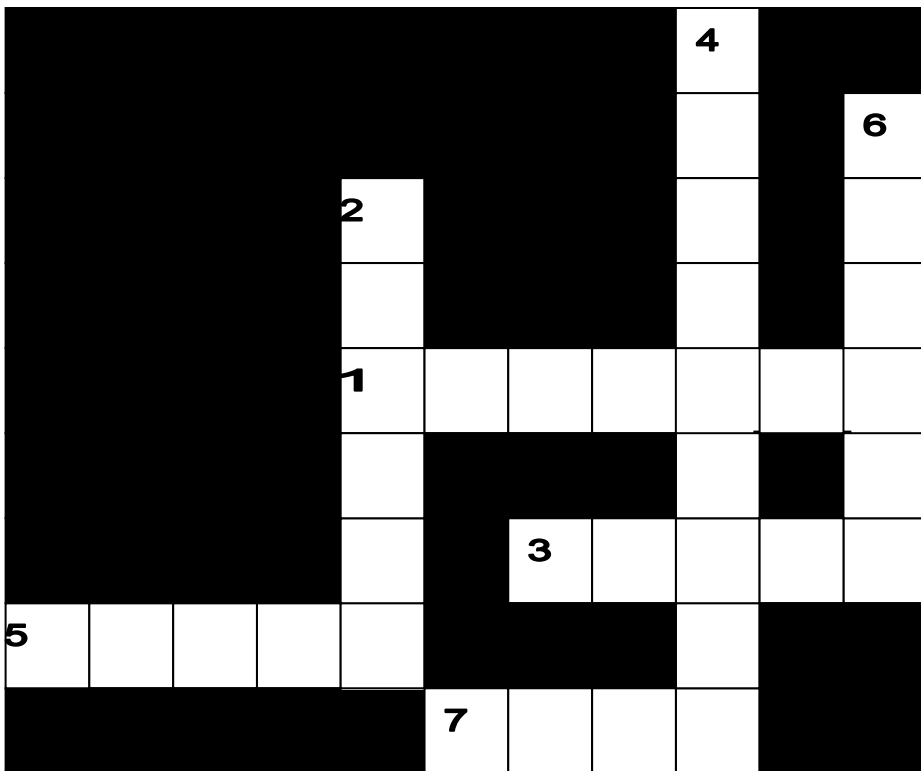
Some Angels in the Bible

ACROSS:

- 1 The angel _____ told Zechariah that he had good news. **Luke 1:19**
- 3 An angel told Mary that she would be with _____. **Luke 1: 28-32**
- 5 An angel appeared to _____ in the flames of fire from within a bush. **Exodus 3:1-2**
- 7 When Abraham was ready to kill Isaac, the angel of the _____ called out to Abraham, "Don't lay a hand on him." **Genesis 22:11-13**

DOWN:

- 2 The Bible tells us to show hospitality to everyone for by this some have entertained without knowing it. **Hebrews 13:2**
- 4 Daniel was _____ and fell on his face when he saw Gabriel. **Daniel 8:15-17**
- 6 An angel came down from heaven and _____ away the stone from Jesus' tomb. **Matthew 28:2**





Caravaggio



Rembrandt



Angel Stomping Satan
Giulio Romano



Rembrandt



Caravaggio



Leonardo DaVinci



Caravaggio