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Introduction to Supernatural Realities

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An Apostolic School of Ministry



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Many thanks to the team of writers of the series for their collaboration to make the series available to the public. The writers are: Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, Danetta Ferguson, Paula Green, Elisa Griffith, Nancy Hadley, Robin Harmon, Brandy Helton, Grant Hill, and Kevin McSpadden. Each have sought Holy Spirit for the words He wants to speak through them. The result is a mixture of personalities and communication strategies that convey the total message in a beautiful, diverse way.

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Encouragement and Prayer for the Reader

Beloved of God, these teachings are written to reveal Jesus Christ and His heart of love for all who call upon His name to save them.

God has sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save all who would believe in Him and His Word.

God desires to reveal Himself and to give us His divine nature in Christ Jesus our Lord through the power of His Holy Spirit.

God is Jealous. He wants us to encounter His presence daily and walk with Him in glory – intimate communion - today, while it is called today, and forever.

It is my prayer that this teaching would so impact the readers that all would come to know and believe JESUS, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Great God and Savior, and receive the PERFECT LOVE He has for us all as we grow up into Him and mature as true sons and daughters of God.

May you grow in faith and knowledge of your God and Savior and come to know the love that He has for you. I pray for you the Apostle Paul's prayer for spiritual growth:

Ephesians 3:14-21 The Living Bible (TLB)

"14-15 When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth— 16 that out of his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of his Holy Spirit. 17 And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; 18-19 and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself.

20 Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. 21 May he be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of his master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ."

In Christ our Lord,
Brandy Helton
A child of God

God's Love

God's love is good news! Don't believe the lie that God is distant, unapproachable, and angry!

God is love. He is the only true, eternal God. He is perfect and holy, and He is truth. God is One. He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells the story of God's perfect love. In that love, God created the first family to live on the earth with Him. Through their deep intimate relationship with the Father, Adam and Eve were meant to fulfill all that was in God's heart on Earth just like it is in Heaven, for God's glory and purposes. Adam and Eve were chosen to walk with God, clothed in His glory presence and were perfect, as He is perfect, and they lived in His beautiful garden, the secret place called Eden. He gave them His breath, life and power to have dominion over all He created and wanted them to reproduce that LIFE replenishing the earth with it, until all the earth is filled with His glory.

Genesis 1:26-28

"26 Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our

image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

God created His children in His likeness. He made them spirit beings, with a soul – mind, will and emotions – and placed them in a physical body. He gave His children the choice to love Him and to walk with Him in obedience to His every word. He gave the first family the power to overcome any temptation offered to them through God’s adversary, the devil, who had rebelled against the Most High God in Heaven’s glory and was cast down to the earth. The devil, Satan, brought great darkness and chaos prior to Adam and Eve’s existence.

Adam and Eve were deceived into thinking that God was not perfect in love as Satan, the adversary, tempted them to believe that God would not keep His Word to them. Through their own will, Adam and Eve disobeyed the Father by eating from a tree that had the power to open their eyes to both good and evil. Through their choice of disobedience, they willfully gave their inheritance and authority over to the devil and his kingdom. Sin entered mankind, which produced death, eternal separation from a Holy God. Adam and Eve were banished from the dwelling and intima-

cy of perfection in the garden and were sent into the world as a fallen creation.

Father God knew He had to come Himself and save His family, and in His wisdom, He chose to send His Son, Jesus Christ into the world to save us and restore fallen mankind back to relationship with Him. Through His Son, He destroyed all the works of the devil and the curse of death. Hebrews 9:22 says, *“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”* Remission means to cancel the penalty, so according to the law there must be shedding of blood to cancel the penalty for sin. The Father cancelled the penalty for the sins of His children through the shedding of the blood of His innocent, holy Son Jesus, who was the Sent One, called and chosen to die for all, so all could live.

John 3:16-21

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may

be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Jesus was conceived by God’s Holy Spirit in the womb of a young virgin named Mary. He appeared as the second Adam, in the flesh, with the choice to walk in perfect love and obedience, full of God’s Spirit, as a man to do the will of His Father.

Jesus grew up as any male child did in the flesh but He had divine fellowship with His Father and Holy Spirit. At the appointed time, He was revealed as being sent from God to save. Jesus went around doing good and healed all who were oppressed by the devil spiritually and physically. He revealed His Father’s heart and perfect love to all who believed through His teachings, grace and miraculous power.

Salvation means eternal life, healing, deliverance, protection, peace, wholeness, and forgiveness. Salvation came to all men through the cross, where the Son of God, the perfect One, was slaughtered as a lamb, bearing all sin for all times from a fallen people. Jesus bore the wrath of God against the darkness that separated God’s family from Him. Jesus was punished for our sin and died to cleanse us from the guilt, shame and condemnation sin produces. Sin separates. Love restores.

Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, spending three days and nights in the depths of Hades, the realm of the dead fallen race. Jesus took back the keys of death and hell from that old serpent the devil, Satan, and therefore, all authority was restored back to Jesus.

Great Holy Spirit breathed LIFE into Jesus and raised Him from the dead. He appeared to His disciples, those who followed Him and obeyed His teachings. He showed them that He conquered sin, death and the grave and now, had the keys of hell and death, and would give ETERNAL LIFE to ALL who chose to believe in Him. King Jesus ascended back to the Father of glory where He ever lives to make intercession for us all, and He is coming again to the earth in power to establish His Father's Kingdom on Earth.

Jesus Christ is the head and Lord over His church, those who have made Him Lord and Savior, by believing He is the Son of the Living God and God in the flesh, who finished the work the Father gave Him to do. He not only died for our sins to save and heal us, He chose to give His authority to those He called and chose to follow Him as His disciples, His family.

Jesus has commissioned His followers to do the same works that He did while He lived on the earth.

John 14:12-14

“12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

God loves us and desires that none should perish. He desires for His family to be with Him where He

is. These books are written to inspire all who read them and to reveal the heart of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit in order that we might RECEIVE THE LOVE HE HAS FOR US and be CHANGED INTO HIS VERY LIKENESS. God desires to dwell with His family forever and ever just as He did in the beginning. How glorious it is to live in His presence and dominion, beholding His goodness, forever and ever, amen.

The book of Revelation describes the time that is coming when all things are made new according to God's heart of love:

Revelation 21:1-7

"1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' 6 And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be

My son.”

To understand what is presented in the Bible, you must start by understanding God’s love. The good news is that God loves you!

The Heart of It

Our culture is flooded with images and information about the supernatural that strategically leave out the one true source of all creation, the God of the Bible, Yahweh. He created it all, including the supernatural, which is everything beyond and above the natural, including superhuman powers and characteristics. Instead of recognizing and exalting Yahweh for being the ultimate force, either His adversary Satan is promoted, or the misinformation tactically obscures the truth. The enemy of God wants to lure God's beloved mankind away from Him in order to prevent God's "will to be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). The conflict in the supernatural between God (good) and Satan (evil) is the dynamic behind propaganda concerning the supernatural.

So, what is the biblical truth about supernatural realities? Why are there so many lies about it? The enemy of God, Satan, does not want you to know the truth that is written in the Bible because the truth would set you free from his domination. Jesus said it this way in John 8:31-32, "Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, 'If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'" So, if you believe Jesus and

accept what is written about Him in the Bible, you will be free. That is why we are inundated with misinformation about supernatural realities.

The God of the Bible has revealed Himself both supernaturally and practically to those who would believe in Him. The good news (gospel) is that this same God is accessible to all of mankind and still moves and reveals Himself supernaturally today through His Spirit. So, it is imperative to understand from the Bible the truth about supernatural realities.

There are many scriptures quoted here. Please take time to read carefully each one “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword...” (Hebrews 4:12). Let His words sink in. Linger over them. God’s words are not only alive, but they are mighty to cut through the lies you may have believed.

Let’s begin!

Introduction to Supernatural Realities

What is the first thing you think about when you hear the word, “Supernatural?” For many, the word conjures up sensationalized images of magic, sorcery, or any number of superheroes, none of which have anything to do with God, Yahweh, the creator of all things, including the true supernatural. Popular culture is obsessed with its own dramatized versions of the supernatural, flooding our senses with fictitious depictions of beings and even societies that derive power from a variety of fabricated sources other than the one true God. Our God and the truth are largely left out of these lopsided portrayals, even though God is the architect of both the natural and the supernatural. So, what is the biblical truth about supernatural realities? What do we need to know about the real supernatural?

According to Merriam-Webster, supernatural means, “of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible observable universe, especially of or relating to God or a god, demigod, spirit or devil.” From this definition, you can think of supernatural as “above or outside the natural.” It is

super which is above and beyond what is natural. In addition, it refers to both good and evil, **invisible** spiritual forces.

Biblically, the most important thing you need to know about supernatural realities is that there is a supernatural, invisible God, Yahweh, who is the creator of the universe, both the natural universe and the invisible heavenlies. This magnificent God of the Bible created man to be His family. He loves His family with a supernatural love and wants to be present with us, both in our natural life and throughout eternity in the hereafter. He gives us a lifetime to choose between following Him or following His adversary, Satan, who was once one of God's prominent and beautiful angels. It's a miracle that God gives His created beings, both angels and man, a choice!

As recorded in Isaiah 14:12-14, the conflict between God and Satan started in heaven when Satan chose to rebel and exalt himself above God. Satan was judged and banished from heaven along with his followers. Jesus mentions the event in Luke 10:18 when He said, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven." In the symbolism of Revelation, Satan was reported to have taken one third of the angels with him. "His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth" (Revelation 12:4). So Satan and his followers were thrown out of heaven and are operating on earth. Because Adam and Eve listened to Satan and disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, mankind was drawn into the defiant battle. Man handed over his authority on earth to Satan when man chose to listen to Satan and disobey God. Satan fell from authority in heaven and man fell

from authority on earth. Both are fallen.

Jesus came to restore man's authority on earth, to save man from rebellion, and to give him abundant life; whereas Satan battles to destroy man and keep him in the fallen state under his authority.

John 10:10

"10 The thief (Satan) does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I (Jesus) have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

Man must make the choice to receive Jesus and His promises, otherwise man's fate will be to join Satan as he is cast into the "lake of fire and brimstone" (Revelation 20:10) when Jesus returns victoriously to set up His kingdom on earth. Jesus gives man a lifetime to choose while Satan battles to keep his dominion on earth and to torment man with intimidation. It is an invisible war between supernatural forces. "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

Understand that in this supernatural battle, there are just two sides: for Jesus Christ or against Jesus Christ. You cannot sit on the sidelines. The battle is all about your stance with Jesus. You have either accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, and are on His team or by default, you are on Satan's team and share in his fate. You start out on Satan's team, and you must make a choice to be on Team Jesus. Satan loves to talk you into

procrastination or indecision because you are still on his team until you accept the offer from Jesus to switch sides.

There are many things we need to know about supernatural realities, the invisible battle, and the order God has established in His creation. We must dig into the Bible to know what type of battle it is, what is at stake, who is engaged in the battle, what we have available to us from the supernatural, who has authority, how Satan maintains his influence, and how, as followers of Christ, we can be free of Satan's tactics so that we can accomplish our part as members of God's army. The topics we cover here are:

- Spiritual Battle
- The Kingdom of Heaven Brought to Earth
- The Divine Council of God
- Angelic Hosts and God's Kingdom Order
- Jesus as The Angel of the Lord
- Satan and His Demonic Hierarchy
- Encounters with the Supernatural

Spiritual Battle

The supernatural conflict between good (Jesus and His followers) and evil (Satan and his followers) is a spiritual battle. It is fought in the spiritual realm. John 4:24 says, "God is Spirit," and He is supernatural, above or outside the natural. We can't see God, but we know He is there. We are created in God's image according to Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in His own image..." therefore we are part supernatural with a spirit that we cannot see. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 tells us about our three-part structure, "Now may the

God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be presented blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Notice this verse refers to our spirit, soul, and body. We are a spirit being (supernatural) with a soul (made up of our mind, will, and emotions) and we occupy a natural body (made up of flesh and bones). The sacrifice Jesus made on the cross provided a way for our spirit to have an everlasting, supernatural life, living in eternity with our God.

John 3:16

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

What good news it is that we, who believe in Jesus Christ, will not perish when we die, but we will have everlasting life! However, there’s more! We benefit from our supernatural heritage not only when our physical body dies, but while we live on earth as well. Although our culture ignores what the Bible says about our supernatural/spiritual nature both now and in eternity, let’s dig into the truth about what is available to us above and outside the natural in the supernatural NOW.

Let’s define supernatural help as divine assistance to provide the ability to do what cannot be done in the natural or in human strength. We all want some of that, don’t we!

The Old Testament records supernatural help in Zechariah 4:6, “6 Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of Hosts.” In this pas-

sage, the prophet Zechariah records a Word of the Lord given to Zerubbabel, who led the first group of Jews in rebuilding the temple after they were released from Babylonian captivity. The Lord assured Zerubbabel that it would not be by might (military strength) nor by power (human authority or influence), but by My Spirit (Holy Spirit) intervention. Holy Spirit supernaturally removed every obstacle that stood in the way of completing the rebuild of God's temple. Holy Spirit is given to us to help us complete what we cannot complete in the natural.

Once we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, our spirit becomes reborn, and we become children of God and co-heirs with Christ.

John 3:3 (NIV)

“3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new...”

John 1:12

“12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

Our spirit is born of God. Jesus was also born of God. Jesus is referred to as the Word who become flesh. In Greek philosophy, the concept be-

hind the Word (Logos) refers to the divine power who spoke the world into existence and created an orderly universe. Jesus is that divine power in a fleshly body and is the Father's chosen messenger/Messiah to reveal the Father to man. Jesus is God and man. Jesus is the only begotten (created) Son of the Father and when we receive and believe Jesus, we receive the fullness of His sonship by the Father's grace and love.

John 1:14, 16

“14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. 16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.”

Jesus was given Holy Spirit so He could do what He needed to do.

Acts 10: 38

“38...God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

Also, Jesus provides believers with Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God), who is invisible (supernatural).

John 14:15-17

“15 If you love Me (Jesus), keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper that He may abide with you forever – 17 the Spirit of truth (Holy Spirit), whom the world can receive, because it neither sees Him or knows Him, but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”

Holy Spirit is our secret, supernatural weapon. As the Spirit of truth, He leads us into all truth, undetected by the world who doesn't see Him and does not know Him.

We are coheirs with Jesus, living under the Spirit of Adoption and empowered to address the Father.

Romans 8:14-17

“14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of Adoption by whom we cry out, “ABBA, FATHER.” 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

We inherit the power that Jesus had when He walked on the earth.

1 John 4:17

“... 17 because as He is, so are we in this world.”

Jesus walked on the earth as both God and a man. He demonstrated how we are to walk as co-heirs in the superior, supernatural power and wisdom of God through Holy Spirit, which is foolishness to unsaved man.

1 Corinthians 1:18-19

“18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are

being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.'"

1 Corinthians 1:24-25

"24 But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God, 25 because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

Jesus invites us to be one with Him in a supernatural way, connecting our spirit to His.

Revelations 3:20

"20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into Him and dine with Him, and He with Me."

Jesus wants us to be one with Him just like He was one with the Father while Jesus walked on earth so we will know the Father's love and we will walk in His power.

John 17:20-24

"20 I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be One in Us, that the world may believe that You sent me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as we are one; 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be perfect in one, and that the world will know that you sent Me, and have loved them as

You have loved Me. 24 Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given me; for You love Me before the foundation of the world.”

If we are one with Jesus, then we must focus on the supernatural and on unseen things. We must see with our spiritual eyes from the perspective of Jesus, where He is seated in heavenly places. We are hidden in Jesus and get to go where He goes.

Colossians 3:1-3

“1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

The things Jesus shows us from His perspective have eternal significance and are above the natural.

2 Corinthians 4:18

“...18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen, for the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”

Jesus opens the eyes of our understanding to behold His mighty power.

Ephesians 1:18-19

“...18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory

of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power.”

Jesus came to use that mighty power to destroy the works of the devil in a supernatural, spiritual battle.

I John 3:8

“8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

So, one supernatural reality revealed in the Bible is that we have an invisible spirit who can be reborn to become a child of God and co-heir with Jesus through accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior. Once reborn, we receive Holy Spirit and can walk on earth as Jesus did in a spiritual battle to destroy the works of His adversary, the devil. However, we must focus on unseen supernatural realities to be effective in the battle.

The Kingdom of Heaven Brought to Earth

So, what is at stake in this spiritual battle on earth? The spiritual battle is territorial. Remember that Satan fell from heaven and took control of earth from Adam and Eve. Satan is fighting to maintain control of earth and God’s desire is for His Kingdom to come to earth just like it is in heaven. God wants to bring His presence to earth to commune with man. Remember the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew

6:9-10).

Let's first define heaven. Heaven is the place God resides and it is filled with God's presence and God's essence. He is the centerpiece and from Him, all things exist. We are to glorify or exalt Him. He has authority or dominion over all His creation. He radiates His brilliant, magnificent, holiness, which we refer to as His glory. He is the author of all creation and the Father of Glory.

What are the supernatural realities surrounding the establishment of God's kingdom on earth just as it is in heaven? First, we must recognize and honor God for His Supernatural Glory. That's where Jesus tells us to start by hallowing (respecting, revering, worshiping) His name.

The Father of Glory

When we consider the Glory of God, we must know that HE IS the Father of all, God Almighty, the Self-Existing One, the One and True God. He is perfect in all His ways. God is all together lovely, powerful, almighty, perfect, just, true, love, magnificent, holy, and always faithful. He is worthy of true worship and honor and praise.

All of heaven worships God as seen in Revelation Chapter 4:

"1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this." 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and be-

hold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. 3 And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. 4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!”

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: 11 “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all

things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

This is real account of our supernatural God and of the supernatural surroundings! God is beyond the natural and worthy to be praised for He created all things for His glory.

According to Matthew 4:24, “24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” This verse reminds us of our supernatural, unseen heritage and urges us to seek what is true about the supernatural.

Ephesians 1:17 declares God is the Father of glory:

“17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.”

God is truly the Creator of glory, and through Jesus, He gives us Holy Spirit who is the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation so that we can know the Father of Glory. Isaiah 11:2 (KJV) reveals the fullness of Holy Spirit upon Jesus: “And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.”

God’s Family on Earth

God Almighty, chose to create a family who would dwell on the Earth and have authority over His creation there. God’s greatest desire was for His family to know Him intimately, to walk with Him,

and to reveal His glory and goodness on the earth. This account can be read in its entirety in Genesis Chapters 1-3. Let's read a couple of verses.

Genesis 1:26-28

“26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

God revealed Himself to the families on the earth throughout history and there are many fascinating stories of these supernatural relationships with God. We will look at one story from Exodus chapter 3. God manifested Himself to a man named Moses whom He chose to lead and to deliver His people from their bondage of slavery in the nation of Egypt. God's presence was revealed in the midst of a burning bush.

Exodus 3:1-6

“1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire,

but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." 4 So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." 6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God."

God did use Moses to deliver His people from bondage and slavery. He performed mighty, supernatural acts on their behalf, and He released His judgments against the rulers of Egypt who had them bound.

One day, God called Moses to Himself to give to him His laws, known as the 10 commandments, for His people. These laws came from the heart of love and holiness. His desire was to empower His people to walk with Him in His holiness and the wisdom to walk on the earth with their fellow man. God called them His special treasure, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation. This nation is Israel. Exodus Chapter 19 records this testimony.

It is written of Moses that he would seek the Lord in a tent, that was later called the 'tabernacle of meeting'. God's presence would literally come to be with Moses within his tent. Moses would commune with God and receive His counsel and direction for His people. God spoke to him as a 'friend' talks face to face!

Exodus 33:7-11

“7 Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting. And it came to pass that everyone who sought the Lord went out to the tabernacle of meeting which was outside the camp. 8 So it was, whenever Moses went out to the tabernacle, that all the people rose, and each man stood at his tent door and watched Moses until he had gone into the tabernacle. 9 And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses. 10 All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door. 11 So the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.”

God’s original intent for mankind was to dwell with man as a family.

God’s Glory

Moses was truly devoted to God! He knew God had to lead this nation, and to go before them as they journeyed through life. Moses cried out to the Lord one day as they were communing, and said, “Please, show me your glory!”

Exodus 33:18-23

“18 And he said, “Please, show me Your glory.” 19 Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious

to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” 20 But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.” 21 And the Lord said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. 22 So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. 23 Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.”

God’s glory is so holy and so overwhelming that imperfect man can be in jeopardy around it. Moses was protected in this instance and later received even MORE revelation knowledge of God.

Exodus 34:5-7

“5 Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.”

Moses learned that God is abundantly good, merciful, gracious, patient, and forgiving along with being fair yet just.

God revealed His name, Jealous, to Moses. God was jealous for His people. His desire was that He alone would receive their whole-hearted affection,

love, and worship.

Exodus 34:14

“14 (for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God).”

Deuteronomy 4:24

“24 For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.”

In summary, we can see through this one testimony from the Bible, how God supernaturally revealed Himself to Moses and His nation, Israel. We see the following qualities of God that are not natural:

- The Lord is God.
- God is merciful.
- God is gracious.
- God is longsuffering.
- God is abounding in goodness and truth.
- Keeps His promises.
- God faithfully forgives and brings true justice.
- HE IS JEALOUS.

When Moses cried out to see His glory, the Lord declared who He was and allowed His GOODNESS to pass before him. The glory of God is truly His very presence and the essence of who HE IS. A prophet named Jeremiah wrote by the direction of Holy Spirit, these words:

Jeremiah 9:23, 24

*“23 Thus says the Lord:
“Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,
Let not the mighty man glory in his might,*

*Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;
24 But let him who glories glory in this,
That he understands and knows Me,
That I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness,
judgment, and righteousness in the earth.
For in these I delight,” says the Lord.”*

Jeremiah understood that man should be careful not to be proud of his own worth and accomplishments but should give glory to whom it is due – to God.

God’s Ways

Psalm 103:1-7 declares, “He (God) made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.” The Passion Translation expresses this verse beautifully. “You unveiled to Moses your plans and showed Israel’s sons what you could do.” God’s ways can be understood as His ‘way of doing things’; His path; His direction; even His thoughts and purpose of His heart.

Isaiah the prophet, quotes God explaining His ways and thoughts:

Isaiah 55:8-9

*“8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways, and
my thoughts than your thoughts.”*

God’s wisdom is often revealed through His ways.

James 3:13 NLT

“13 If you are wise and understand God’s ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom.”

God’s way is PERFECT.

II Samuel 22:31

“31 As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.”

God’s ways are supernatural.

God’s Power

God’s Power is manifest or made obvious because of who HE IS! The power of God is in what He does, in His mighty actions. It is God moving to create, change, form, fashion, deliver, and demonstrate His glory.

Genesis 1:3

“3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.”

Psalms 145:4-7

“4 One generation shall praise Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts. 5 I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. 6 Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, And I will declare Your greatness. 7 They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness and shall sing of Your righteousness.”

II Chronicles 20:5-6

“5 Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, 6 and said: “O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand is there not power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You?””

Psalms 66:3

“3 Say to God, “How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You.””

Jesus, the Son of God, declared of His Father in Heaven, “...For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever” (Matthew 6:13).

There is no one like our God who creates with His very Word. The Bible is full of witnesses and accounts of God’s great power.

The Glory of God Revealed Through Jesus Christ

Although Jesus, the Son of God, was divine himself, He lived to give glory and honor to His Father in heaven, while He walked on the earth to fulfill His divine purpose and call.

John 3:16, 17

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.””

Jesus teaches His disciples how to give glory to His Father as He does.

John 7:18

“18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him.”

John 8:50

“50 And I do not seek My own glory...”

John 12:26-28

“26 If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor. 27 “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.”

John 17:1-5

“1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, 2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with

You before the world was.”

Jesus showed mankind how to revere God and give Him preeminence.

Glory to God for His Goodness

Jesus demonstrated God’s goodness and power by His obedience to His Father, and through His teaching. He supernaturally healed those who were sick and in need. He cast out demons and destroyed the works of the devil. He cleansed lepers, raised the dead. He loved people. He cared for them and had genuine compassion for them. He simply met them where they were in life and offered, life and life more abundant. It is worth repeating His words:

John 10:10

“10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

All His work brought glory to the Father! He revealed the Father’s love to all. He always exalted His Father and proclaimed that we had only to BELIEVE GOD.

Jesus boldly declared that God alone is GOOD, and He is the great gift giver!

Matthew 19:16-17

“16 Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” 17 So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but

One, that is, God.”

James 1:17

“17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

Jesus connects belief in God to His glory.

John 11:40

“40 Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?”

Mark 5:36

“36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not be afraid; only believe.”

Jesus encouraged us that God is able!

Mark 10:27

“27 But Jesus looked at them and said, “With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.”

As Jesus worked miracles, He glorified the Father and the people were glorified Him as well!

Acts 10:38

“38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

Matthew 9:6-8

“6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins”—then He said to the paralytic, “Arise, take up your bed, 7 and go to your house.” 8 Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.”

Matthew 15:29-31

“29 Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of Galilee, and went up on the mountain and sat down there. 30 Then great multitudes came to Him, having with them the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others; and they laid them down at Jesus’ feet, and He healed them. 31 So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.”

Jesus demonstrated supernatural realities through healings along with the appropriate resulting attitude toward God, the supernatural source.

Jesus Glorified

The Bible reveals when Jesus was glorified supernaturally. Jesus took a few of His disciples with Him as He met with God. This is known as the transfiguration of Jesus. Transfiguration means to change in outward form or appearance. He was literally ‘transformed’ while still in His human body to His spiritual, glorified state.

John 17:1-8

“1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high

mountain by themselves; 2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. 3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. 4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" 6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. 7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." 8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only."

Not only was Jesus transformed into His glorified state, but He visited with two saints of God, Moses and Elijah, who lived and died years before Jesus. Then the Father literally spoke from heaven honoring Jesus and told those disciples who were in their midst to ‘hear Him!’ This is an amazing account of supernatural busting forth into the natural, and it directs us to the words of Jesus to discern the truth about the supernatural.

Jesus Glorified in His Death

Jesus prepared His disciples for His ultimate purpose of revealing the love and glory of God. He declared that He Himself, the Son of Man, would take on the sins of the world and die on a cross in order for mankind’s sin to be removed, so the family on earth could be restored to His Father in

heaven.

John 12:23-28

“23 But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. 24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. 25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor. 27 “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.”

Jesus knew His suffering and His ultimate death on the cross would only be for God’s glory and spoke of it with such authority and surrender!

John 13:31-32

“31 So, when he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. 32 If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately.”

Jesus spoke often that He and His Father were one, so when Jesus was glorified, His Father was also glorified.

The Father Glorified Through Jesus’s Disciples

Jesus promised His disciples that they would do the same works as He had done and even greater works! That would glorify the Father and the Son and spread His fame across the earth! God's desire is that all of His creation will choose Him, recognize Him, and honor Him.

John 14:12-13

“12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

Jesus desired to bear ‘much fruit’ for His Father! He taught His disciples to remain in His Word and in fellowship with God.

John 15:7-8

“7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so, you will be My disciples.”

Bearing much fruit means operating in supernatural acts through Jesus, the way Jesus did while He was on earth.

Father, Glorify Your Son

Jesus asked the Father to glorify Him, so, in doing so, the Father would be exalted even more.

John 17:1-5

“1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes

to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, 2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

Jesus Desire for His Family - To Behold Him in His Glory

Jesus wanted His family to see Him in His true self or in His glory so the world would know who He really is and choose Him.

John 17:20-26

“20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

24 “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the

world. 25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

Jesus Christ Crucified and Raised from the Dead

God’s ultimate purpose for sending His only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into the world was to save all who would believe in Him. Scripture says that all have sinned and have fallen short of the ‘glory of God’.

Romans 3:10

“10 As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.”

Romans 3:23

“23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

The greatest event in all of time was the sacrifice of the Son of God to deliver the family of God from an eternal separation from His PRESENCE.

Mark 8:31

“31 And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.”

You must read the account of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ for yourself in John Chapter 19:1-

37. Below are the verses that follow that amazing passage:

John 19:38-42

“38 After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. 39 And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40 Then they took the body of Jesus and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. 41 Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. 42 So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews’ Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.”

After three days, the Lord of Glory was raised from the dead.

Mary Magdalene, a disciple of Jesus, went to the tomb, and found that Jesus was not there. Later Peter and John ran to the tomb after hearing her report.

John 20:5-9

“5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. 8

Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. 9 For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.”

Jesus appeared to Mary.

John 20:11-17

“11 But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. 12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” 14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, “Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher). 17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’”

Jesus appeared to His disciples.

John 20:19-20

“19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut

where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord."

Jesus remained with His disciples for 40 days ... very much ALIVE. That is the ultimate supernatural reality!

Acts 1:3

"3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God."

Jesus promised to send Holy Spirit to fill the void when He left.

Jesus told His disciples, "8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Holy Spirit came after the ascension of Jesus back to His Father in heaven. Those Jesus called to wait on the Lord were baptized in Holy Spirit and fire to empower them to do the works of Jesus and to testify of all they had seen and heard.

The scripture documents Jesus's glorious and supernatural ascension back to heaven.

Acts 1:9-11

"9 Now when He had spoken these things,

while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.””

Truly, as Jesus had promised on the Day of Pentecost, Holy Spirit did come upon His followers. What a glorious day!

This event is referred to as Pentecost for short because it occurred on the Day of Pentecost which was one of the Jewish feast days.

Acts 2:1-4

“1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Later, Peter preached an amazing sermon after the promised outpouring of Holy Spirit upon the church. He boldly proclaimed: “22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know— 23 Him, being de-

livered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it” (Acts 2:22-24).

So, the supernatural miracles God did through Jesus confirmed that Jesus was indeed who He said He was. The unspeakable crucifixion and death Jesus endured was not the end of the story. Jesus rose from the dead and will come again to bring Heaven to Earth permanently.

Jesus Shall Come Again in Great Glory

Jesus promised His followers that He would come again with His angels and gather to Himself those who are His and bring His Father’s Kingdom to earth in fullness. That event will end “business as usual” on earth and a new era will begin.

Matthew 16:27

“27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.”

Matthew 24:14

“14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:29-31

“29 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be

shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”

Matthew 25:31-34

“31 “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. 33 And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

Heaven’s Worship

God is always worshipped in heaven, and Jesus, known as the Lamb of God, who came to die for the sins of the world, will forever be worshipped.

Revelation 5:6-14

“6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. 7 Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. 8 Now when He had taken the

scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song, saying:

*“You are worthy to take the scroll,
And to open its seals;
For You were slain,
And have redeemed us to God by Your blood
Out of every tribe and tongue and people and
nation,
10 And have made us kings and priests to our
God;
And we shall reign on the earth.”*

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice:

*“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
To receive power and riches and wisdom,
And strength and honor and glory and blessing!”*

13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

*“Blessing and honor and glory and power
Be to Him who sits on the throne,
And to the Lamb, forever and ever!”*

14 Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped Him who lives forever and ever.”

Jesus Shall Return

The picture of the victorious return of Jesus is described in the book of Revelation. It pictures Jesus on a white horse ready to return as King.

Revelation 19:11-16

“11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”

The Glory Fully Restored

God the Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, will forever dwell with their family on earth as it is in heaven. God will restore all things perfectly in a new earth and heaven, and God’s glory will be revealed to all who are His.

Revelation 21:1-7

“1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2

Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

6 And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son."

The Lord God Almighty has sworn by Himself that the earth shall be filled with His glory. May we know God the Father for Who HE IS!

Numbers 14:21

"21 But truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord."

Amen. (So be it!)

Perhaps the most powerful supernatural reality of all is that our magnificent God loves mankind beyond the limits of our comprehension, and He wants to dwell on earth with man in His full glory. For the moment, Satan inhabits earth and is bat-

ting to stay, hoping to mount enough resistance and agreement with God's beloved man to prevent God's will from being done on earth. It is up to man to choose sides before Jesus comes back to establish God's kingdom on earth permanently with whomever is on Team Jesus. Jesus came in person to not only to make the ultimate sacrifice to save man from eternal separation from God, but to show man how to advance God's kingdom on earth and defeat His adversary. Of course, God is perfectly able to accomplish His desires without man, but astoundingly, God wants man's participation. God created a family, and He wants to dwell with His family in person. He wants His family to know Him for who He really is and He wants His glory to fill His beloved earth.

The Divine Council of God

God created a family on earth, and He desires that family to choose to work with Him to manage His creation on earth. It is not surprising that God has created a family in heaven and has given them the same freedom to choose to align with Him on His purposes. Let's look at part of that heavenly family, the Divine Council of God. To do so, let's start by digging into scriptures that mention the third heaven, the supernatural location of the throne room.

Jesus is one with and is the Almighty God. He left His throne to come to the earth as the Son of Man, but now, after His resurrection, He has returned to His place within the throne room of Heaven. However, that does not mean Jesus is now sitting idly by God's side. It is quite the opposite. Throughout Scripture we read about God's

throne room, and several passages describe how proceedings brought forth from this room are sent out to be enacted on the earth. We know God has angels, which the Bible calls “ministering flames of fire,” who go forth from the third heaven, to carry out God’s word to believers on the earth.

Hebrews 1:14

“14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?”

In addition to the angels, we also read about another group active in God’s throne room: His divine council. The divine council consists of an assembly of spiritual entities gathered around God’s throne to agree with and administrate God’s will. Importantly, the Bible refers to these spiritual entities as “beings.” When trying to communicate accurately what these “beings” actually are, English translations of the Bible may use the terms “sons of God,” “holy ones,” “watchers,” or even “gods.” For example, notice these phrases in the following verses:

Psalms 89:5-7 (ESV)

*“5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, your faithfulness in the assembly of the **holy ones!** 6 For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord? Who among the **heavenly beings** is like the Lord, 7 a God greatly to be feared in the **council of the holy ones,** and awesome above all who are around him?”*

Daniel 4:17

*“17 This decision is by the decree of the **watchers,**
And the sentence by the word of the **holy ones,***

*In order that the living may know
That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men,
Gives it to whomever He will,
And sets over it the lowest of men.”*

Job 38:7

*“7 When the morning stars sang together, and
all the **sons of God** shouted for joy?”*

Who are these beings? These “sons of God” are the family of God in Heaven. These sons of God are not angels, but “sons” or “children” of God in Heaven. Unlike the angels, they were created in God’s image and likeness. Furthermore, they are not the deceased forefathers or saints in heavenly places, which will become clear shortly. However, these beings are similar to earthly saints. Mankind on earth is made in God’s image and born again by the Holy Spirit to become children, or sons, of God on earth. In the same way, there is a family of sons of God in Heaven who are made in His image and likeness, but these sons have immortality instead of mortal bodies.

Sons of God, Psalm 82

Why does God need a family in Heaven? What is the purpose of the sons of God? They actually play a role in Heaven similar to that of God’s people on the earth. In Amos, we read that the Almighty God does nothing unless He first reveals it to His prophets, or servants.

Amos 3:7

*“7 Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, unless
He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.”*

This Scripture demonstrates that God does not impose His will upon us. Instead, He uses the agreement of His family to enact His plans and will on the earth. God has not changed. He has always told His plans and enacted His will through the agreement and support of His family.

2 Corinthians 6:1

“1 We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.”

Ephesians 3:14-15

“14 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.”

We also understand from Scripture that the things on the earth are a reflection of the things in Heaven. In the verse below, the priests were described as a copy and shadow of the way Jesus operates in heaven as our High Priest to mediate a better covenant.

Hebrews 8:5-6

“5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.” 6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.”

Therefore, if God needs His family on the earth to

co-labor with Him, it is because He has a family in Heaven to co-labor with Him. This heavenly family is the divine council. The purpose of the sons of God is to bring the Lord God's heavenly will, in action, to the earth.

Some key passages reveal the role of the divine council in manifesting God's will. For example, the sons of God were with the Almighty God before the creation of our earth, and they cheered their approval of His plans.

Job 38: 4-7

“4 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?

Tell Me, if you have understanding.

5 Who determined its measurements?

Surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

6 To what were its foundations fastened?

Or who laid its cornerstone,

7 When the morning stars sang together,

And all the sons of God shouted for joy?””

These verses in Job reveal that during the creation of the earth, the sons of God watched Him “lay the foundation of the earth.” Therefore, we know these cannot be deceased saints – the saints did not exist yet! Instead, it was His heavenly family, sons of God, to whom the Lord was revealing His plans and performing them with their agreement.

The roles of the sons of God in bringing Heaven's plans to the earth are laid out in Psalm 82:

Psalm 82:1-4 (ESV)

“1 “God has taken his place in the divine coun-

cil;
in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:
2 *“How long will you judge unjustly*
and show partiality to the wicked? Selah
3 *Give justice to the weak and the fatherless;*
maintain the right of the afflicted and the des-
titute.
4 *Rescue the weak and the needy;*
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

At the beginning of Psalm 82, the Almighty God takes His place in the midst of the divine council. The sons of God are present in a formal council, or assembly, before God. In this verse, the sons of God are translated as “gods.” Then God enters into judgment with them. God asks the members of this council, “Why are you not revealing My heavenly ways to the men of the earth? Why are you showing partiality and delivering unjust ways?” These initial questions reveal God’s deep displeasure with His divine council, and the following verses reveal that the earth has faced grave consequences because of the unjust and perverse actions of the sons of God:

Psalm 82:5 (ESV)

“5 They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.”

All the foundations of the earth are shaken due to the unjust ways of the divine council. Even though the sons of God are immortal and make up His family in Heaven, they must still choose to obey and follow His ways so that His will may be done in Heaven and on the earth. They can still choose to sinfully disobey, which they have clear-

ly done, and so the Lord reveals a grave judgment to them:

Psalm 82:6-7 (ESV)

*“6 I said, “You are gods,
sons of the Most High, all of you;
7 nevertheless, like men you shall die,
and fall like any prince.””*

The Lord reprimands His council, “You are immortal. All of you! You are sons of the Most High God, Me! But now because of your decisions, and unjust ways, you shall die like mortal men and fall like prideful princes.” These verses reveal God is not talking about kings or people on the earth, for they are already mortal men who will die! It is instead a dire punishment for the disobedience of the sons of God. We read in Genesis some of the sins the sons of Gods committed to invoke this punishment.

Genesis 6:1-2,4

“1“Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose...

4 There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”

Some of the sons of God left their heavenly abode, their realm, and entered our mortal realm to for-

nicate with earthly women. This was disobedience to God's will, plans, and purposes. Therefore, these sons of God fell. You may have heard the term "fallen angels." When one of the sons of God disobeys the Most High God, or when they act on their own will, they fall from God's throne and align with the scheme of the enemy, Satan. The fallen sons of God join the fallen angels to become members of Satan's contempt against God.

As we understand these supernatural truths, we can begin to see a hierarchy forming in the heavenly realms. Through Jesus, mankind can now become "sons of God" to bring Heaven and Earth to its rightful order. Men and women who are born of God's Holy Spirit are raised up in spirit to be seated with Christ in heavenly places far above powers and authority.

Ephesians 2:5-6

"5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

Ephesians 1:20-21

"20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come."

Romans 8:16-17

"16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if chil-

dren, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”

In the same measure, the immortal “sons of God” in Heaven, who are positioned around God to labor with Him, can fall away from His throne by choosing to sin and become the “fallen angels” of Satan’s army.

Jude 1:6

“6 And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day...”

In summation, the divine council of God consists of His heavenly family, the sons of God, who approve and enact His will in heaven. They have a key role in manifesting God’s ways to the earth, but they must choose to remain obedient. Those who disobey God fall, receiving His stern judgment and becoming part of the army of darkness. Those who stay faithful remain part of God’s family in heaven. These receive the honor of manifesting God’s glorious Kingdom along with the children of God on the earth.

Angelic Hosts and God’s Kingdom Order

Angels are real and they are supernatural beings, therefore they normally exist in a realm that is beyond the natural even though the Bible records their interaction on earth. The Hebrew word for angel, malek (Strong’s concordance H4397), denotes “a messenger” or “ambassador.” Angels serve God. In scripture we see they have many

roles and functions in both heaven and on the earth. We will look at some of the types of angels, their role and function in God's Kingdom, as well their interaction with the believers in Jesus Christ and His work on earth. God created all for His divine purposes and for His own pleasure and glory!

"In Hebrew, the word hosts is translated as tsebaah, which means warriors or soldiers organized for military service and equipped for war. The Lord's hosts, therefore, are a mass of angelic beings." (Strong's H6635). Angelic hosts would be a term used to describe a group of angels serving God dispatched on a military mission.

God is surrounded by faithful ones, Heavenly Hosts who also participate in heavenly worship "2 Praise Him all His angels, Praise Him all His hosts!" (Psalm 148:2). Thousands upon thousands of angels worship the Lord bringing Him glory. They are around the throne and can be found worshipping God, day and night, night and day. Enamored by His beauty and splendor, they remain in awe, as the Lord of Glory reveals over and over again a new aspect of Himself, each time crying out "8 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" Revelation 4:8. All of heaven testifies to the limitless wonder experienced by those who worship in spirit and in truth.

As Saints of the Most High God, we have full access to all of Heaven's resources and that includes the angelic hosts and their assistance. In Tim Sheets book, *Angel Armies on Assignment*, he states, "Angels are available to help us main-

tain our inheritance and, if need be, obtain deliverance and supernatural victories.” p. 11

One of the most important realizations that we must come into agreement with is the fact that there are supernatural beings in God’s Army that are assigned to us, to work with us here on the earth, to protect us, to minister to us, to guard us, and to carry out the word of the Lord.

In the following passage, “they” refers to angels:

Hebrews 1:14

“14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?”

In the next passage, the angels are extremely strong and heed (listen to and follow) those who speak God’s word:

Psalms 103:20-21

*“20 Bless the Lord, you His angels,
Who excel in strength, who do His word,
Heeding the voice of His word.
21 Bless the Lord, all you His hosts,
You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.”*

We must not miss the supernatural reality that angels not only minister to us but they carry out God’s word when we speak it.

In this next section we will learn about the types of Angelic Hosts, their rank and order and their function in both heaven and on the earth. First, we must recognize Jesus as the commander of all angelic hosts.

Jesus Christ –Lord of Angel Armies, Captain of the Hosts, Lord Sabaoth

The word of God teaches us that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is Lord, and He has been given all authority in heaven and on earth.

Matthew 28:18

“18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

Colossians 1:15-18

“15 He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.”

Colossians 2:9-10

“9 For in Him (Jesus) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.”

Jesus Christ is the Lord of angel armies – captain of the hosts! Jesus chose to reveal Himself to a mighty man of God named Joshua. Joshua led God’s people, Israel, in many territorial battles for promised dominion on the earth. In this encounter, Jesus Himself proclaimed Himself as ‘captain

of the hosts of the Lord.’ Joshua did bow in worship because Jesus is God.

Joshua 5:13-15 KJV

*“13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? 14 And he said, Nay; but **as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come** [emphasis mine]. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? 15 **And the captain of the LORD’S host** [emphasis mine] said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.”*

Another ‘name’ given to Jesus is the Lord Sabaoth – Lord of Hosts.

Romans 9:29 KJV

*“29 And as Esaias said before, Except **the Lord of Sabaoth** [emphasis mine] had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrhah.”*

James 5:4 KJV

*“4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of **the Lord of Sabaoth** [emphasis mine].”*

As Lord of Hosts, Jesus oversees and commands them to do His will.

“They (angels) are created to carry out God’s plans under the command of Christ Himself. They are mobilized by His words, including those spoken of by the saints. Psalm 103:20 (NLT) says, “Praise the Lord you angels, you mighty ones who carry out his plans, listening for each of His commands.” Angel Armies, Tim Sheets, p. 39-40

It is important to understand Kingdom authority in God’s domain, so now let’s look at the complete chain of command.

Understanding the Line of Authority

Ken Howerton explains the revelation knowledge Holy Spirit gave him concerning Kingdom authority:

“One of the most important truths He has shown me is what I know as the line of authority, or the chain of command in the spiritual realm. Until someone really understands this concept, they cannot fully understand who they are in Christ Jesus. Part of the confusion has happened because of some misunderstanding or even misinterpretations of the Word of God. For instance, in Genesis 1:1, the original text does not say, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. “What it says is, “In the beginning, Elohim, the Aleph and Thav, created the heavens and the earth.” If you do a quick search on the word, you’ll discover that Elohim refers to a plural, and yet it is the name God chose with which to describe Himself at creation. Notice that in Genesis 1, God says, “Let us...” each time He’s getting

ready to create. Taken together, this establishes that Jesus, as the Living Word of God, and the Holy Spirit were creating with and alongside God the Father. And so the trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit were mentioned from the very beginning.

Continuing that line of thought, consider Psalm 8:5, which many translations misinterpret as saying that man has been made lower than the angels. That word for ‘angels’ is “Elohim” in the original text. We now understand that to mean that man was made a little lower than the “Elohim”, or a little lower than Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. That changes the way we begin to think about our authority. In fact, if we line it out properly, we discover that redeemed man has a much higher level of authority than many people believe.

With that in mind, this is what Holy Spirit taught me about the true chain of command in the spirit world. At the very top of the order, we have God the Father, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit. Right beneath them ranks redeemed man. After redeemed man come the angels in all their rank and order. Then comes Satan, followed by the fallen angels in all their rank and order, demon spirits, and at the very bottom, with no spiritual authority whatsoever, comes fallen man. So that means that redeemed man ranks fourth in spiritual authority, above the angels, not beneath them. That’s why in Hebrews 1:14, it says of angels, “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” That tells us that angels minister for us

according to the will of the Father. This should start to change the way you understand the spiritual authority God has given you if you are a believer in Jesus.” *Say Father*, Ken Howerton, pp 39-40.

Kingdom Authority

We can conclude that all the Sons of God are at the same level of authority, so Redeemed Man and the Divine Council come right after the triune God. The complete line is as follows:

God the Father
God the Son, Jesus Christ
God, Holy Spirit
Redeemed Man, Divine Council – Sons of God
Holy Beings -Angels in Ranking Order
Satan
Satan’s Fallen Angels in Ranking Order
Demons Spirits in Ranking Order
Fallen Man

Notice that redeemed man is in a different category than fallen man. One must make the decision to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior to move from being under the domination of Satan and the hosts who serve him.

Engaging with the Heavenly Hosts

Tim Sheets outlines in his book *Angel Armies on Assignment*, a variety of divisions of angels. As we know there are multitudes of angels with very specific purposes. Sheets explains that “It’s time to engage with the angels as Holy Spirit leads. It’s time for the assistance of angels partnering with

Christ's Ekklesia, His New Testament church at levels never seen before." pg.50

As believers in Christ Jesus, we need revelation of our spiritual Kingdom authority. This knowledge will empower and strengthen us to knowing how God aligns heaven and earth. We must know and understand that God's angels work with us and for us to accomplish His will on the earth.

With the line of authority in perspective, let's look at more scriptures that describe supernatural beings in God's Kingdom. It is difficult to categorize all the beings and it is probably not necessary. We assume beings, creatures, and messengers are all heavenly hosts who vastly differ in function and appearance. Let's start with those beings who are gathered around the throne in heaven.

Living Creatures Around the Throne

The word of God describes in such amazing detail, the glory of the Lord's throne in heaven. Around the throne, God has 'living creatures' who serve and worship God in His holiness and power. The description of these creatures is below:

Revelation 4:6-11

*"6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were **four living creatures** [emphasis mine] full of eyes in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8 The four living creatures, each having*

six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!” 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: “11 “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.”

This passage certainly describes a supernatural scene!

Seraphim

The seraphim are described as “majestic beings with 6 wings, human hands or voices in attendance upon God.” Strong’s concordance, (H8314). The prophet Isaiah was taken up into heaven to the Lord’s throne. It was there that he encountered the seraphim.

Isaiah 6:1-7

*“1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood **seraphim** [emphasis mine]; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”*

4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.”

6 Then one of the **seraphim** [emphasis mine] flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. 7 And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.”

In this case, the seraphim worshipped, and one served by cleansing Isaiah’s mouth.

Cherubim

The cherubim are known to guard or protect or carry God’s glory, and even His throne to the earth. Strong’s concordance defines these magnificent angels as: “an angelic being, as guardians of Eden, as flanking God’s throne as an image form hovering over the Ark of the Covenant, and as the chariot of Jehovah.” (Strong’s H3742).

Ezekiel 10:1-5

“10 And I looked, and there in the firmament that was above the head of the **cherubim** [emphasis mine], there appeared something like a sapphire stone, having the appearance of the likeness of a throne. 2 Then He spoke to the man clothed with linen, and said, “Go in among the wheels, under the cherub, fill your hands with coals of fire from among the cherubim, and

scatter them over the city.” And he went in as I watched. 3 Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the temple when the man went in, and the cloud filled the inner court. 4 Then the glory of the Lord went up from the cherub and paused over the threshold of the temple; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the Lord’s glory. 5 And the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard even in the outer court, like the voice of Almighty God when He speaks.”

Here we have a description of God’s glory and what accompanies it. In the following passage, we see the Lord placed cherubim at the entrance to the Garden of Eden in order to keep Adam and Eve from ‘re-entering’ the Garden in which God had just expelled them due to their sin. If they had gone back to the Garden, they would have access to the Tree of Life, which provided eternal life to those who ate its fruit. God did NOT want them to remain in an eternal state of sin. Jesus had to come to atone for their sins. So in His grace and love, God placed His cherubim there with ‘flaming swords’ to keep them from eating from the Tree of Life, thus sealing their eternal fate in their sin state.

Genesis 3:24

“24 So, He drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubims, (H3742) and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

God even had Moses create the ‘mercy seat’, which was on top of the ‘ark of the covenant’, a box covered in gold which signified His presence with His

people. Upon it had cherub's on each end with outstretched 'arms' or 'wings' covering the seat itself, guarding the glory of God.

Exodus 25:17-20

*“17 “You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold; two and a half cubits shall be its length and a cubit and a half its width. 18 And you shall make **two cherubim of gold** [emphasis mine]; of hammered work you shall make them at the two ends of the mercy seat. 19 Make one cherub at one end, and the other cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim at the two ends of it of one piece with the mercy seat. 20 And the cherubim shall stretch out their wings above, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and they shall face one another; the faces of the cherubim shall be toward the mercy seat.”*

Hebrews 9:3-5

“3 and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, 4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; 5 and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.”

Once again, the cherubim were tasked with guarding the presence or glory of God.

Arch Angels

Another group of angels are known as arch angels or princes. They are warring angels of high rank, who typically led heaven's armies in battle

to defeat Satan’s counterparts and protect and defend God’s chosen people. These angels can be assigned by God over ‘territories, nations, and people groups.’

Michael is “one of, the chief, or the first arch angel who is described as the one who stands in time of conflict for the children of Israel.” (Strong’s 4317.)

Daniel describes an encounter he had with Michael in a vision where Michael strengthened Daniel and fought spiritual forces of darkness (the prince of the kingdom of Persia) that were opposing Daniel and the Israelites.

Daniel 10:13

*“13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me (Daniel) twenty-one days; and behold, **Michael, one of the chief princes** [emphasis mine], came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.”*

Daniel 10:18-21

*“18 Then again, the one having the likeness of a man (Michael) touched me (Daniel) and strengthened me. 19 And he said, “O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace be to you; be strong, yes, be strong!” So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.” 20 Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. 21 But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, **except Michael your prince** [emphasis mine].”*

Michael is referred to as a prince standing watch over Israel.

Daniel 12:1

*“1 At that time **Michael shall stand up, the great prince** who stands watch over the sons of your people [emphasis mine].”*

In the following passage Michael contended with Satan over the body of Moses. Again, Michael is shown battling.

Jude 1:9

*“9 Yet **Michael the archangel** [emphasis mine] in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, “The Lord rebuke you!”*

Michael is depicted as leading other angels in a bigger battle.

Revelation 12:7

*“7 And war broke out in heaven: **Michael and his angels** [emphasis mine] fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought.”*

Some of these high-ranking angels in the Bible have been commissioned by God not only to rescue, deliver, and help His people, but some bring spiritual understanding from God and answers to their prayers.

In the following passages, Gabriel, another arch angel, brings understanding to Daniel:

Daniel 8:15-17

*“15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, **“Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.** [emphasis mine]” 17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, “Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end.”*

Daniel 9:20-22

*“20 Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, 21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer, **the man Gabriel** [emphasis mine] , whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. 22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.”*

In the New Testament, the arch angel Gabriel was commissioned by God to communicate with an aging righteous couple about His divine will for a child that they would conceive even in old age. This man, John the Baptist, would be the forerunner who would prepare the way of the Lord, the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Luke 1:11-17

*“11 Then an **angel of the Lord** [emphasis mine] appeared to him, standing on the right side of*

the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. 16 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Gabriel also came to a virgin, name Mary, who would become the mother of Jesus Christ. He announced to her God's plan for her life and that she would be with Child by the Holy Spirit.

Luke 1:26-33

*"26 Now in the sixth month **the angel Gabriel was sent by God** [emphasis mine] to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" 29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in*

your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

Now let us look at some passages describing generalities about angels.

Angels are Never to be Worshipped.

The angelic live in God’s presence, therefore, they are just saturated in His glory! So, when they reveal themselves to humans on earth, we must know as believers in Jesus Christ, to recognize the glory of God on them for His purposes, but we are commanded in scripture never to give them our worship.

Colossians 2:18

“18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.”

Revelation 22:8-9

“8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. 9 Then he said to me, “See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

Angels are Innumerable

Only God Himself knows the number of those who serve Him in glory, but for mankind, we would never be able to ‘count them’.

Hebrews 12:22

“22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels.”

Announcing Angels

Angels announced God’s glorious news of the birth of His Son, the Messiah, the Savior of the world. Below is an account of the angelic hosts who appeared to shepherds while tending their flocks at night.

Luke 2:7-15

*“7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. 8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, **an angel of the Lord** [emphasis mine] stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with **the angel a multitude of the heavenly host** [em-*

phasis mine] praising God and saying: 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” 15 So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.”

What JOY filled the heavens and earth as they proclaimed the Word of the Lord, announcing the Savior’s birth!

Angels Who Bring God’s Judgment

God’s angels do carry out His word to perform it. They are also used to carry out the judgments as directed by Him. Scripture affirms that there are more for us than against us. The prophet Elisha assured his servant in time of battle that the heavenly hosts God had sent to assist them outnumbered the literal armies. God’s heavenly forces are always greater than His enemies!

II Kings 6:15-18

*“15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?”16 So he answered, “**Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.** [emphasis mine]. 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, “Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

18 So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, “Strike this people, I pray, with blindness.” And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.”

Below, we see God’s judgment released upon the Assyrians, known enemies of Israel and Judah, as one angel slayed 185,000 men!

II Kings 19:32-35

“32 “Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: ‘He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor build a siege mound against it. 33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return; and he shall not come into this city,’ says the Lord. 34 ‘For I will defend this city, to save it for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’ ” 35 And it came to pass on a certain night that **the angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand** [emphasis mine]; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead.”

Guardian and Ministering Angels

God provides supernatural guidance, assistance and protection for His children and His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus states that children’s angels are always before His Father’s face.

Matthew 18:10

“10 “Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven

their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”

Psalm 91:11-12

“11 For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. 12 In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.”

Angels came to minister to Jesus after His temptations with Satan in the wilderness.

Matthew 4:10-11

*“10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’”
11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, **angels came and ministered to Him** [emphasis mine].”*

Mark 1:12-13

*“12 Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. 13 And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and **the angels ministered** [emphasis mine] to Him.”*

Jesus knew His authority as the Son of God. When faced with threats from governing rulers and as He was being prepared for the cross, He states that the Father could send angelic help to assist Him.

Matthew 26:53

*“53 Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than **twelve legions of angels** [emphasis*

mine]?” [NOTE: A legion = 6,000 troops; 12 x 6,000 = 72,000 angels].

Angelic Assistance

In the New Testament, we see several different accounts of the angelic hosts interacting with God’s chosen people at various times and for different reasons. Jesus taught many parables, simple stories, explaining the Kingdom of Heaven and used illustrations of even the angels assisting His people in His stories. Here we see where Jesus taught that the righteous dead would be ‘carried’ by the angels to ‘heaven’ – Abraham’s bosom.

Luke 16:22

*“22 So it was that the beggar died and was **carried by the angels** [emphasis mine] to Abraham’s bosom.”*

We read in scripture that there was place called the Pool of Bethesda in which an angel would come and ‘stir’ the waters from time to time, so the people in physical need of healing or a miracle would get in the waters at the time of the stirring and they would be healed.

John 5:2-4

*“2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For **an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water** [emphasis mine]; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatev-*

er disease he had.”

After Jesus had been crucified, dead and buried, the women had gone to the tomb where He was lain, and they encountered the angelic, who communicated with them and announced that He was not within the tomb and had been raised from the dead!

Matthew 28:1-7

*“1 Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for **an angel of the Lord descended from heaven** [emphasis mine], and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.”*

As the Lord Jesus was ascending back into heaven after His suffering, scripture records that two ‘men’, clothed in white apparel, spoke to His disciples explaining to them that He would descend the same way in which He left the earth and went back to heaven!

Acts 1:9-11

*“9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, **behold, two men stood by them in white apparel** [emphasis mine], 11 who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”*

In Acts chapter 4:6-10, a glorious testimony is written of the apostle Peter, who had been imprisoned for his faith. One night the Lord sent His angel to rescue him.

*“6 And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison. 7 Now behold, **an angel of the Lord** [emphasis mine] stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off his hands. 8 Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.” 9 So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. 10 When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.”*

In these instances, Angels assisted by doing supernatural tasks that could not happen in the natural.

Angelic Assistance at the End of the Age

We see in the book of Revelation different types of angels carrying out God's sovereign plans. They do mighty supernatural acts, open scrolls, sound trumpets, break open seals, make declarations, announce, and execute God's judgments.

Revelation 5:1-2

*"1 And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. 2 Then I saw a **strong angel** [emphasis mine] proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?"*

Revelation 18:20-21

*"20 "Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!" 21 Then a **mighty angel** [emphasis mine] took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore."*

Revelation 18:1-6

*"1 When He opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. 2 And I saw the **seven angels who stand before God** [emphasis mine] and to them were given seven trumpets. 3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it*

*with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. 4 And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. 5 Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. 6 So **the seven angels** [emphasis mine] who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound."*

Angelic Reapers

Jesus taught that the angels would be reapers who would be used in gathering the righteous to God in the great harvest at the end of the age. They would also reap the unrighteous and all who practice lawlessness and throw them into hell.

Matthew 13:24-30

"24 Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. 26 But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. 27 So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' 28 He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' 29 But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them

in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.””

Matthew 13:37-43

*“37 He answered and said to them: “He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and **the reapers are the angels** [emphasis mine]. 40 Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. 41 **The Son of Man will send out His angels** [emphasis mine], and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”*

What glorious accounts of the angels ‘thrusting their sickles’ to reap the harvest of souls! The Lord of Angel Armies, commanding their every action righteously.

Revelation 14:14-19

*“14 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. 15 And **another angel** came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, “Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” 16 So*

*He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. 17 **Then another angel** came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 **And another angel** came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe.” 19 **So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.**” [emphasis mine]*

There are many different purposes and functions of the angelic. Below is a brief summary:

- They worship and serve God in heaven and on earth
- They carry out the Word of the Lord
- Bring Understanding/Revelation
- Give Instructions
- Guard and Protect
- Give Strength
- Bring Deliverance and Healing
- Execute God’s Judgments
- Assigned to the Harvest

We discussed many examples from the Bible concerning God’s angelic hosts, yet, we still have not covered all! We know the Father of Glory will continue to reveal to His children His magnificent plans and will always teach us and instruct us by revelation knowledge as we interact with Heaven’s ambassadors! May our hearts be comforted that He is FAITHFUL to accomplish His will in our lives

and we are never alone!

Jesus as The Angel of The Lord

To what is the Old Testament referring when it mentions the “Angel of the Lord?” Let’s look at those references in relation to what we know about Jesus in the New Testament.

Jesus is The Word made flesh. Therefore, He represents the fullness of all that is written in the bible. God’s word reveals Jesus in many ways and through many scriptures.

John 1:1

“1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:14

“14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

So, the New Testament tells us that Jesus existed in the beginning and was with God and was God, but He became flesh and dwelt among us. Christians generally agree that many passages in the Old Testament that mention “the Angel of the Lord” are appearances of the pre-incarnate Christ (Christ before He came in the flesh). So, both the Old Testament and the New Testament reveal Jesus. The whole Word speaks of Jesus.

In the Old Testament for example, the “Angel of the Lord” appeared to Manoah’s wife to tell her that she would give birth to Samson.

Judges 13:3–6

“3 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, “Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. 4 Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean. 5 For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.” 6 So the woman came and told her husband, saying, “A Man of God came to me, and His countenance was like the countenance of the Angel of God, very awesome; but I did not ask Him where He was from, and He did not tell me His name.”

In this scripture the Angel of the Lord appeared supernaturally with a remarkable countenance and a prophecy.

Exodus records another reference to the Angel of the Lord. In this story, Moses encountered God in a burning bush. This bush was burning with supernatural fire that did not consume the branches and bark of the bush while it burned. It was here that Moses received his mission to be the leader of the Israelites as God would judge their Egyptian slave masters with a series of plagues. This passage leaves no doubt that the Angel of the Lord is God:

Exodus 3:1-6

“1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And

he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." 4 So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." 5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." 6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God."

This scripture states that the Angel of the Lord was in "the midst of a bush." Once the bush caught Moses' attention, the Angel identified Himself as "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." This scripture confirms that rather than being a normal angel, the Angel of The Lord is indeed God.

Because God is a triune being, He has appeared in Scripture as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, yet He is one God. Although we may not understand fully how that can be possible, we believe that it is true. This next passage reveals God in two ways, as Father and as the Son.

In Exodus 13, God's people, the Israelites, were being held in captivity by the Egyptians. God was working through Moses to free His people. The fi-

nal punishment on the Egyptians was completed through the first Passover where all the firstborn in the land died, sparing only His people whom the plague “passed over.” Pharaoh, the king, now defeated and deeply grieved because his firstborn son died, let the Israelites leave Egypt.

In the wilderness, God led the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land:

Exodus 13:21-22

“21 And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. 22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.”

God miraculously provided a literal pillar of cloud to lead Israel during the day and a pillar of fire to lead during the night. The cloud was used throughout Exodus to conceal God’s Presence from the Israelites, reinforcing that God the Father is not to be viewed by anyone but the Son.

In Exodus 14, Pharaoh, in his final attempt to slaughter the children of Israel, reneged on his promise of freedom and brought the full force of his army to the wilderness in order to attack the Israelites.

Exodus 14:13-20

“13 And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The Lord will

fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.”

“15 And the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to go forward. 16 But lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. 17 And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So, I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. 18 Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

“19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them. 20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus, it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.”

Both the Angel of God and God in the pillar of the cloud, moved from their position in front of the entire Israelite nation to behind them to provide a defense against the encroaching Egyptian army. So not only is the Angel of the Lord identified as God in our first example, He and God the Father both appear and operate at the same time in this passage showing an Old Testament distinction between God the Father and The Son.

Exodus 23:20-22

“20 “Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him. 22 But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.”

Notice that God sent the Angel, and the Angel has God’s “name in him.” This is a confirmation that this Angel is no lower ranking being but is divine Himself. In fact, “the Name” is even a title for God in Scripture and Hebrew culture in general. This is further confirmed when God warns the Israelites that if they do not obey the voice of this Angel and provoke Him, “he will not pardon your transgressions.” So, this Angel has full authority to forgive sin.

We have already seen that the Angel of the Lord is God, so we can conclude that Jesus, as a part of the triune God, is the Angel of the Lord because in the New Testament He has been given all authority which includes authority to forgive sins. Matthew 28:18 states, “And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.” Then in Matthew 9:6 Jesus says, “But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.”

From the New Testament, Jesus Christ, during His Earthly ministry, not only forgave sins, but was criticized for ‘trying to be God’ when He did so:

Luke 5:20-21

“20 When He saw their faith, He said to him, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?””

Notice in this next passage, the Angel says that it was He who led the Israelites out of Egypt to the Promised Land and He who made the Mosaic covenant with the Israelites.

Judges 2:1

“1 Then the Angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim and said: “I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which I swore to your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you.’”

The Angel is claiming responsibility for the exact same great works that are clearly attributed to God in the book of Exodus. How can this be possible? Jesus, in the New Testament provides the explanation:

John 10:30

“30 I and My Father are one.”

The Bible is full of supernatural realities because it describes an incredible, beyond-natural God in many of His manifestations. He reveals Himself and His desire to have relationship with mankind through His Living Word. It is beyond understanding why any of His creation would rebel against His perfect love and provision. However, inherent in God’s creation is having a real choice. We turn now to look at one of God’s family who chose to

exalt himself above his Maker, the one true God.

**This section was adapted from <https://beginningandend.com/is-jesus-christ-the-angel-of-the-lord-finding-christ-in-the-old-testament/>*

Satan and His Demonic Hierarchy

“Satan, the chief arch enemy of God and His people, is known as the adversary of mankind. The original Hebrew term *śātān* (Hebrew: שָׂטָן) is a generic noun meaning “accuser” or “adversary”, which is used throughout the Hebrew Bible to refer to ordinary human adversaries, as well as a specific supernatural entity.” *https://www.britannica.com/topic/Satan*

Satan’s original name was Lucifer. He was once a high-ranking angel who served God in heaven.

“Some point before time on earth began, Lucifer, whose name means “light bringer” was one of God’s angels. The Bible says he used to be beautiful, and his whole body was designed to worship God. Because he thought so much of himself, Lucifer decided he would be the king of heaven and rule it instead of God. One third of the angels joined Lucifer and waged war against God for control of everything. Of course, they lost and got thrown out of Heaven by God.” *The Gospel of the Kingdom for Kids, Tweens, and Teens*, Lauren Caldwell, p. 10.

As a result of their rebellion, Satan and the angels who followed him are known as fallen angels.

Lucifer - Fallen Angel

This passage from Isaiah 14:12-15 describes Lucifer and the pride of his rebellion against God Almighty.

*“12 “How you are fallen from heaven,
O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How you are cut down to the ground,
You who weakened the nations!
13 For you have said in your heart:
‘I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High.’
15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,
To the lowest depths of the Pit.”*

Ezekiel 28:11-16 explains Lucifer as the ‘anointed cherub’ who once worshipped God. Remember from the previous section, *Angelic Hosts and God’s Kingdom Order*, a cherub (cherubim is plural) is known “to guard or protect or carry God’s glory, and even His throne to the earth.

“11 Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 12 “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God:

*“You were the seal of perfection,
Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
13 You were in Eden, the garden of God;
Every precious stone was your covering:
The sardius, topaz, and diamond,
Beryl, onyx, and jasper,*

*Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold.
The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes
Was prepared for you on the day you were cre-
ated.*

*14 “You were the anointed cherub who covers;
I established you;
You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery
stones.*

*15 You were perfect in your ways from the day
you were created,
Till iniquity was found in you.*

*16 “By the abundance of your trading
You became filled with violence within,
And you sinned;
Therefore I cast you as a profane thing
Out of the mountain of God;
And I destroyed you, O covering cherub,
From the midst of the fiery stones.”*

Lucifer was indeed created for a high position in God’s kingdom. He was given a choice, as all of creation is given, and in pride, he chose to sin and serve himself instead of God. This put him at war with God.

War in Heaven

Satan – The Devil, The Dragon, The Serpent

In the Bible, angels are referred to as “stars of heaven,” and in addition to Lucifer, Satan is referred to by many names, including the Devil, the Dragon, and the Serpent.

Revelation 12:4; 7-9

“4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heav-

en and threw them to the earth.” 7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael [chief arch angel of God, emphasis mine] and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Satan and those angels who followed him were cast out of heaven to the earth. They work to deceive the inhabitants on the earth in an effort to spoil God’s plans on earth.

Jesus Saw Satan Fall from Heaven

As mentioned in the introduction, Jesus tells His followers about witnessing Satan’s fall to earth, and He gives His followers the authority over Satan and his crew.

Luke 10:17-20

“17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” 18 And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”

However, in this passage, Jesus is quick to warn His followers not to fall into pride over that power,

but to be grateful for an eternal destiny in heaven.

Adversary and Accuser

Satan's very name means adversary and he accuses God's people day and night. The Lord instructs His people to resist this adversary standing firm in their faith.

I Peter 5:8-9

"8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world."

Revelation 12:10

"10...for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."

Satan tries to convict man of his sin in the courts of heaven, relying on the perfect justice of God's nature to find man guilty. Satan intimidates man with his own guilt. However, believing and trusting in Jesus as his Savior rescues the believer every time. Jesus has already paid the price for man's sin and man can stand firm in his faith in Jesus.

Prince of the Power of the Air

Satan is also known as the 'prince of the power of the air'. He willfully and strategically works to deceive the nations and the peoples from the truth of God and His Kingdom.

Ephesians 2:1-3

“1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”

Satan blinds the minds of those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior yet. The Gospel of the Kingdom revealed through Jesus Christ removes the blindness, the veils of unbelief, so that people can be saved.

II Corinthians 4:3-4

“3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age [Satan, my emphasis added] has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

Romans 1:16 KJV

“16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

It is a supernatural reality that Jesus came to save everyone who believes in Him. This good news (gospel) is often obscured by Satan who is called the god of this age.

Angel of Light

Satan is known as an angel of light in that he deceives by disguising himself and his evil works as 'good'.

II Corinthians 11:14

"14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light."

Satan loves to trap man into believing that what he selfishly wants to do is good. Satan is all about himself and he wants man to do the same.

Father of All Lies and a Murderer from the Beginning

Jesus was speaking to the Pharisees who were trying to condemn Him to death in John 8:44:

Jesus declares, "44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."

The truth was veiled, so the Pharisees did not recognize that Jesus came from God, the Father. So, the Pharisees were following Satan instead of Father God, so Jesus said they were of their father, the devil. Satan was called a murderer from the beginning because of his part in the Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve lost eternal life by believing Satan. Satan lies to mankind to garner support from man against God.

Satan's Hierarchy

The apostle Paul encourages the believers in Jesus Christ to stand firm against the wiles of the devil and explains Satan's demonic hierarchy of rule and authority.

Ephesians 6:10-12

“10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

Let's look at how God describes in this passage the following: principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

“You see, Satan is the god of this world, and those princes and powers are under his authority.”
“When you start looking at the demonic structure – Satan's kingdom – it's set up like a military.”
Say Father, Ken Howerton, p. 49.

Principalities have the highest level of authority under Satan. These beings take their order directly from Satan. They can have dominion or authority over nations, and different regions on the earth.

Let's look again at the passage in Daniel at one

of these spiritual battles between high- ranking princes. In this passage we can see Michael, one of God's princes, battling the prince of the kingdom of Persia, who was standing in the way of the angelic forces sent to rescue Daniel.

Daniel 10:12-14

“12 Then he said to me, “Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. 13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. 14 Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come.”

Powers are in direct command of a principality. They can rule over states, regions, cities.

Rulers of darkness can be likened unto army generals overseeing 'troops' for special operations.

Hosts of wickedness in heavenly places, are simply demon spirits. They can be compared to the foot soldiers who take commands from their senior authorities.

Ken Howerton explains further from his book, *'Say Father'*:

“The Lord has given us tremendous revelation in the function, operation, and assignments of the spirit realm.”

“If you looked at military manning documents, it’s exactly the same setup. When we understand that, it empowers the way we pray to see people set free from Satan’s power. So what does the enemy army look like? Satan is the head. Then there are four fallen angels over the North, South, East, West. The earth is broken into regions, then nations, then states. States are further divided into quadrants, then counties, cities, and blocks. The structure continues down into individual homes and even individual people.” P. 49-50

So, Satan has an authority hierarchy and an order too. This information will be helpful to us in the war against him.

Root Demonic Spirits in Scripture

Jesus taught his disciples to cast out demons. He explained that evil spirits are cast out by the Spirit of God. He explains simply that the ‘strongman’ over a person must be bound and then cast out. That strongman may also be referred to as a ‘controlling ruling spirit’ or ‘root spirit’.

Matthew 12:28-29

“28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. 29 Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house.”

The believer in Jesus Christ has the authority to repent of their sins, receive forgiveness, forgive others, receive inner healing and deliverance from

all demonic oppression. Matthews 10:7-8 states, “7 And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

Dr. Henry Malone, a deliverance minister and author of the book, *‘Shadow Boxing’* states:

“Through my experiences with the ministry of deliverance [setting people free from demonic strongholds, emphasis mine], I have seen Satan use the fourteen root spirits – each root spirit characteristically producing certain fruit – to set up strongholds in people’s lives. Although the following list is not exhaustive, it will give you an understanding of how and where these root spirits may be operating in your life.” P. 125

The Spirit of Infirmity

Luke 13:11

“11 And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up.”

The Spirit of Fear

II Timothy 1:7

“7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

The Spirit of Divination

Acts 16:16

“16 Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit

of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling.”

The Spirit of Whoredoms

Hosea 4:12 KJV

“12 My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.”

The Spirit of Bondage

Romans 8:15 KJV

“15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”

The Spirit of Haughtiness

Proverbs 16:18 KJV

“18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

The Spirit of Perverseness

Isaiah 19:14 KJV

“14 The Lord hath mingled a perverse spirit in the midst thereof: and they have caused Egypt to err in every work thereof, as a drunken man staggereth in his vomit.”

The Spirit of Antichrist

I John 4:3 KJV

“3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God:

and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”

The Spirit of Deaf and Dumbness

Mark 9:25 KJV

“25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.”

The Spirit of Heaviness

Isaiah 61:3 KJV

“3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.”

The Spirit of Lying

II Chronicles 18:22 KJV

“22 Now therefore, behold, the Lord hath put a lying spirit in the mouth of these thy prophets, and the Lord hath spoken evil against thee.”

The Spirit of Jealousy

Numbers 5:14 KJV

“14 And the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be defiled: or if the spirit of jealousy come upon him, and he be jealous of his wife, and she be not

defiled.”

The Spirit of Stupor or Slumber

Romans 11:8 KJV

“8 (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.”

The Spirit of Error

I John 4:6

“6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”

Death is not called a spirit in Scripture, but it acts like a root spirit, and it definitely can be a curse.

Hebrews 2:14-15

“14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

Good News

Jesus Christ came to set the captives free! He was manifested as a man in order to destroy the works of the devil, while He walked on earth.

Through repentance and forgiveness, Jesus em-

powers His followers to walk free and whole.

Luke 4:18-19

*“18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”*

I John 3:8

“8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

Through faith in Jesus Christ and through the power of Holy Spirit, the believer has God given authority to cast out demons, heal the sick and see captives set free!

Matthew 10:1

“1 And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.”

James 5:14-16

“14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The ef-

fective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

Jesus is our example of how to deal with the supernatural realities in the spiritual realm.

Stay in Truth and on God’s Path

It is important to stay in truth and on the narrow path leading to God because it is easy to veer off that path. The excerpts below are taken from Ken Howerton’s book, *‘Say Father’* concerning Satan and his hierarchy and his deception.

“When you’re dealing with the supernatural, there are so many ways you can get off into deception. As we’ve discussed before, everything God has ever done, Satan has a perversion of it. Whenever things look really good but something is not quite right, that’s probably the perversion.” P. 77

“One way Satan deceives the body of Christ is that he doesn’t take us ninety degrees away from the truth. Instead, he takes us just a hair off from the truth. The deception sounds so perfect that people just go with it. They don’t discover the deception until the damage has already been done, if they discover it at all.” P. 77

“Of course Satan is a liar, but he deceives in such clever ways that very few pick up on most of the deception. He knows he cannot deceive us with blatant lies, but he’s clever at drawing us away with things that seem so good.” P. 77

So, we see that Satan is cunning in using various tactics to pervert the truth in slight degrees that

sound good at first but eventually lead us completely astray. It is critical to stay close to Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, who will lead us into all truth.

Encounters with the Supernatural

God is available to His people. The greatest privilege in this life as a believer is to know the Lord and encounter Him! He simply wants to reveal His great love for us daily! Holy Spirit leads the believer into all truth as we seek Him with all of our hearts. The Lord promises that if we seek Him we shall find Him! He desires to show us His glory!

Deuteronomy 4:29

“29 But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

Jesus talks to His Father about His desire for us in the following passage:

John 17:22-23

“22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

Let us Pursue and Seek the Lord

We must pursue the Lord and seek first-hand knowledge of Him.

Hosea 6:3

“3 Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth.”

The believer in Jesus Christ is encouraged to seek His love, His face, His righteousness, His heart and fruit of His Spirit!

I Timothy 6:11

“11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness.”

I Corinthians 14:1

“1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.”

I Chronicles 16:10-11

“10 Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD! 11 Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore!”

The Mind and Heart Set on God and His Kingdom

As the believer abides in the Lord and His Word, God reveals His nature, ways, power, abilities, thoughts, plans, purposes, and kingdom life! Jesus desires for His disciples to bear much fruit so the Father can be glorified.

Colossians 3:1-4

“1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind

on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”

Matthew 6:21

“21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

John 15:1-5

“1 “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

In order to accomplish much for the Father, we must set our mind on supernatural things, not natural things and abide in Jesus.

Divine Access to the Throne of God

Through the precious blood of Jesus, the child of God has been granted access to the very throne of God in heaven.

Hebrews 10:19-20

““19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for

us, through the veil, that is, His flesh.”

God calls the believer a ‘new creation’, now that Jesus has reconciled us back to the Father. Not only are believers restored to Father, but now they are empowered to go and see others reunited with God. God even calls His children His ambassadors!

Hebrews 4:16

“16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

I Corinthians 5:17-21

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

The reality in this life now for the believer in Jesus Christ is that God has actually raised them to sit with Him in heavenly, supernatural places. God the Father has redeemed the sinner and made us to be His very own! What an inheritance!

Ephesians 2:4-10

“4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

God has called some of His children to His throne of grace to reveal His word and passion and glory! This happened to the apostle John while banished on an island named Patmos, as he was persecuted for his faith in the risen Christ. While on the island, John records in Revelation 4 his glorious encounter with God and His Throne of Grace.

Revelation 4:1-2

“1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, “Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this.” 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne.”

The apostle Paul testifies that he was taken up

to the ‘third heaven’ and shown great and mighty things that simply could not be measured in human words.

II Corinthians 12:1-4

“1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— 4 how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.”

Paul humbly referred to himself as “a man in Christ” who had an encounter in a supernatural place.

Visitations of the Lord Jesus

Jesus revealed His glory to Saul, a religious leader in Israel, before he became known as ‘Paul’ the great apostle. Saul was persecuting ‘the Way’ – the new movement of God, and the people who believed Jesus was the Messiah. Jesus supernaturally appeared to Saul and as a result, Saul believed in Jesus, was saved, and converted to serve Jesus all his days.

Acts 9:1-20

“1 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he

found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.³ As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. ⁴ Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" ⁵ And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." ⁶ So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." ⁷ And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹² And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." ¹³ Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a

chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." 17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. 19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus. 20 Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God."

Notice that Jesus literally appeared to Saul and at the same time, the men who journeyed with Saul only heard Jesus. That was supernatural! Afterwards, Saul was struck blind. Then Jesus appeared to Ananias in a vision to give him instruction for restoring Saul's sight. This is only one story of one man converted by the supernatural power of Jesus Christ, by faith, in whose life was forever changed by His glory presence! God still encounters those who oppose His Way and transforms them into glorious witnesses of His passion!

Angelic Visitation

The Lord of Angel Armies can direct His angels to 'visit' His followers in this journey of life! Some bring messages, others give instruction, some protect and deliver.

Daniel was such a man! He was once thrown into a den of lions for praying to His God. God had the final say and showed Himself to be strong. His angel was sent to deliver Daniel supernaturally and it was glorious for all to know and see! This passage records the conversation between the king and Daniel after Daniel was thrown into the lion's den overnight.

Daniel 6:20-23

“20 And when he (the king) came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?” 21 Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! 22 My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.” 23 Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.”

In this case, the angels were sent to protect Daniel from the lions.

Baptism in Holy Spirit, Dreams, Visions, and Trances

The prophet Joel prophesied that one day, the Lord God would pour out His Holy Spirit upon those who know Him, and great signs and wonders would follow! We refer to this “pouring out” as the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Once the people

of God have been baptized in the Holy Spirit, they would be able to hear His words and declare them. They would have dreams and visions from God, and they would be empowered by His Holy Spirit to release and carry out what God tells them!

Joel 2:28-29

*“28 “And it shall come to pass afterward
That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your old men shall dream dreams,
Your young men shall see visions.
29 And also on My menservants and on My
maidservants
I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”*

As we have already seen, this was fulfilled when Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost upon the disciples of Jesus Christ who were commissioned to go and preach His gospel through the world! It's worth reading again!

Acts 2:1-4

*“1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come,
they were all with one accord in one place. 2
And suddenly there came a sound from heav-
en, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the
whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then
there appeared to them divided tongues, as of
fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they
were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began
to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave
them utterance.”*

Jesus still saves and He still baptizes His followers in Holy Spirit to be ministers of fire to seek and save the lost, and to empower His children to

do His will. An encounter with and a connection to Great Holy Spirit is truly an encounter with the supernatural.

Matthew 3:11

“11 I [John the Baptist, emphasis mine] indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He [Jesus] who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

God sovereignly chose to speak to the apostle Peter in a ‘trance’, a condition or state, where a person becomes focused as they ‘see or hear’ what God chooses to reveal to them. In this case Peter was going to just pray and wait until his lunch was prepared when Holy Spirit chose to speak to him and show him the Lord’s plans to save the Gentiles (anyone who is not Jewish)! He went into a deep ‘trance’ and God showed him the movie!

Acts 10:9-16

*“9 The next day, as they went on their journey and drew near the city, Peter went up on the housetop to pray, about the sixth hour. 10 Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell **into a trance** [emphasis mine] 11 and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. 12 In it were all kinds of four-foot-*

ed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. 13 And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." 14 But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." 15 And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." 16 This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again."

This movie played 3 times for Peter, emphasizing the importance of the point of the movie. Obviously what Peter considered as unacceptable and unclean because of Jewish custom could be cleansed and made acceptable by God. The Gentiles were considered unacceptable by Jewish traditions.

While Peter was thinking about the vision, three men came to invite him to visit a man named Cornelius, a centurion and a Gentile. God spoke to Peter and told him to go with the men. God not only spoke to Peter but had sent His angel to Cornelius and told him about Peter! What a glorious encounter both had with God!

Acts 10:22-48

"22 And they said, "Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you." 23 Then he invited them in and lodged them. On the next day Peter went away with them, and some brethren from Joppa accompanied him. 24 And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together his relatives

and close friends. 25 As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. 26 But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man." 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together. 28 Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean. 29 Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?"

30 So Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, 31 and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.' 33 So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God."

34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— 37 that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John

preached: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. 40 Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. 42 And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Then Peter answered, 47 “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.”

Peter had the opportunity to see God fulfill His plans to save the Gentiles. It was all done through encounters with the supernatural!

God speaks through dreams as well as visions! He can direct His people, reveal scripture to them, tell them of things to come, teach, bring direction, or take them into heavenly places and encounters with the Lord in heaven.

Job 33:14-16

*“14 For God may speak in one way, or in another,
Yet man does not perceive it.
15 In a dream, in a vision of the night,
When deep sleep falls upon men,
While slumbering on their beds,
16 Then He opens the ears of men,
And seals their instruction.”*

Joseph was told in a dream to take Jesus and His mother Mary to Egypt to escape the corrupt plans of Herod to destroy him.

Matthew 2:12-14

“12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the

Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

Even the magi who came to see Jesus were directed by God in dreams.

Matthew 2:10-11

“10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

The Bible is full of stories and testimonies of God speaking to His chosen people in dreams, and God still speaks today to His children through dreams.

Translation and Transportation

God has ‘caught’ some up into heavenly places in order to reveal His mighty plans to give direction! Some are taken up only in the ‘spirit’. Their bodies don’t go, just their spirits. This is what ‘translated’ means. When God chooses to take a person from one place to another physically, it is called transported!

The Apostle Paul did his best to explain his journey to the 3rd heaven! He was not sure if he was ‘in the body’ or ‘in the spirit’, but God knew!

II Corinthians 12:2-3

“2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God

knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. 3 And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—”

Paul describes how his very own spirit was with those whom He served in Christ.

Colossians 2:5

“5 For though I am absent in the flesh, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.”

Ezekiel the prophet was taken several times by the Spirit! Sometimes he literally went to a location, and sometimes he left where he was only in the spirit. God only knows!

Ezekiel 8:1-4

“1 And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, that the hand of the Lord God fell upon me there. 2 Then I looked, and there was a likeness, like the appearance of fire—from the appearance of His waist and downward, fire; and from His waist and upward, like the appearance of brightness, like the color of amber. 3 He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy was, which provokes to jealousy. 4 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the vision that I saw in

the plain.”

Phillip, a disciple of Jesus, was told to go an Ethiopian eunuch who was reading from the Prophet Isaiah while traveling on his journey. Phillip literally ‘ran up to the chariot’ and ended up explaining the scriptures to him. He preached Jesus as the Messiah, gave him the gospel and the Ethiopian eunuch chose to believe in Jesus and was water baptized! Afterwards, Phillip was ‘transported’, physically caught away and placed’ in another region to continue preaching this glorious gospel!

Acts 8:38-40

“38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. 39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.”

Signs, Wonders and Miracles Shall Follow You

God is so amazing, and His ways are glorious! He is all powerful and omniscient or all-knowing! He is perfect! He works with humanity supernaturally any way He chooses to communicate and reveal Himself!

Jesus promised His followers that He would be with them as they made their journey through life as His disciples, taking the good news of the gospel to the ends of the earth! He promised to be with them, and to confirm His word by performing

signs, showing wonders, and doing mighty miracles among them.

Mark 16:15-20

“15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” 19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.”

Acts 5:12-16

“12 And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch. 13 Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. 14 And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. 16 Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.”

Acts 6:8

“8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.”

Acts 19:11-12

“11 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.”

The greatest manifestation of all is when God Himself, comes in such a glorious way, that none of those who ‘seek Him’ or ‘serve Him’ can even stand in His holy presence. What grace is given to behold the Lord in His magnificent glory! The following passage records such a time when the priests could not even minister because of God’s brilliant presence.

I Kings 8:10-11

“10 And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the Lord, 11 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord.”

As you can see from these examples in scripture, there are many encounters with the supernatural recorded in the Bible. They all show a God who wants to communicate and dwell with His family, in order to fill the earth with His matchless glory.

Conclusion

The truth is that there really is an “order of existence beyond the visible observable universe” and it is well documented in the Bible. The God of the Bible, Yahweh, created it along with the observable universe. He supernaturally loves all His creation, particularly His family, mankind, and He desires that none should perish. 2 Peter 3:9 says, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” God is patient with us, allowing us a full lifetime to make our choice between Him and His adversary.

There is an invisible, supernatural war in which the whole of creation is involved. It has only two sides, Team Jesus and Team Satan. Because of what happened in the Garden of Eden, we are all born under the domination of “the prince of the power of the air,” Satan. The truth that we know and believe will set us free from that bondage and we can choose Jesus as Lord and Savior to switch teams.

Believers in Jesus have a reborn spirit and become co-heirs with Him, obtaining His inheritance

from the Father. This happens immediately when we choose Jesus, so we are able to do the things Jesus did while He was on earth. Jesus said we would do even greater things than He did. Jesus walked on earth in supernatural power, so we are to do the same. He came to destroy the works of the devil, so that is our purpose as well. We are to take back dominion over the earth from Satan and hold our position until Jesus returns to rule on earth with Team Jesus.

God created a family on earth and a family in heaven. His desire is to dwell with both and to enlist both in the management of His creation. Because God is a God of order, there is a hierarchy in God's creation with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit at the head of the chain of authority followed God's sons, both redeemed man (Team Jesus) and the divine council. Angels and other heavenly beings follow in the line of authority and these beings answer to their Captain of the Hosts, Jesus. Satan and his fallen angels are next in the line of authority, followed by demon spirits, and unredeemed man is last under the domination of Team Satan. The good news is that Jesus came to set those who are captive free, and He empowered His team to do the same work. It is extremely important for Team Jesus to focus on this objective because it is God's will.

The Bible documents many encounters with the supernatural because it is God's desire to reveal Himself to His family and to dwell on earth with them just like He dwells in heaven. Jesus will come back one day to make sure that happens. Until then, supernatural encounters are available to Team Jesus through Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit is

our secret weapon. He leads us into all supernatural encounters and into all truth. He is the Spirit of Truth.

It is essential that every believer in Jesus Christ search out true supernatural realities amongst the lies that fill the earth. The place to look is the Bible. These truths not only impact eternal destinations but serve to promote God's will to be done on earth just as it is in heaven.

God has revealed Himself and will continue to reveal Himself to His people. God has provided supernatural help and will do it again. He has the resources. He wants to do it and He has provided a way through Jesus.

We have defined supernatural help as divine assistance to provide the ability to do what cannot be done in the natural or in human strength. The Bible documents many instances in which God has done just that. The good news is that He wants to do it again for you in your circumstances! Part of the key to unlocking supernatural realities is cutting through the prevailing lies we have believed about the supernatural and realizing just what we have as an inheritance, NOW. Holy Spirit will lead us into true supernatural realities

Prayer for Salvation

If you have not made Jesus Christ your personal Lord and Savior, and you desire this with all your heart, then please, join me in prayer:

“Heavenly Father, I choose to believe with all my heart, Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, the Son of God, and that He is God in the flesh. I believe that You sent Him to this earth to save me. Thank You. I believe He died on the cross for my sins and He was dead and buried three days, and then rose again from the dead and that He ascended to Heaven and is now seated at Your right hand and is returning again.

Father, please forgive me for all my sin and iniquity and I choose to forgive others who have sinned against me. I give You all my heart and choose to live with You forever. I believe I have been born again according to Your Word and that I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. I declare I am forgiven and healed! Now, I ask for Holy Spirit to fill me. Jesus, baptize me in Holy Spirit and fullness in order that I may know You intimately and serve You all my days.

Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Amen.”

Scriptures:

John 14:6

“6 Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Romans 10:8-13

“8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, ‘Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.’ 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

John 3:3-8, 16-18

“3 Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ 4 Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’ 5 Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said

to you, *“You must be born again.”* 8 *The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”*

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

II Corinthians 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

I Corinthians 15:3-5

“3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.”

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Colossians 1:13-14

“13 He has delivered us from the power of dark-

ness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

Luke 11:9-13

“9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

I Timothy 3:16

“16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

*God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,
Received up in glory.”*

Fresh Infilling of Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

If you have been born again and filled with Holy Spirit and you desire MORE and want to encounter the Lord’s presence afresh and anew, please join me in prayer:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for loving me and I ask according to Ephesians 1:17-19, that You would give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, Jesus, and the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. Amen.

Father, according to Colossians 3:9-12, I ask in Jesus name, that I would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power. Amen.

I surrender and yield my life to the fullness of Holy Spirit; His power and anointing; the spirit of wisdom and revelation; counsel and might; the spirit of the fear of the Lord and knowledge according to Isaiah 11:2, in Jesus' name. Amen."

The Garden Training Center, Inc. The Apostolic School of Ministry

The Garden Apostolic Training Center is a place that fosters spiritual growth. The center provides training to equip believers in Jesus Christ for the work of the ministry and to be victorious and free in all areas of their lives through the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. For more information check out **thegardenstc.org**.

The Garden Gathering Church

The purpose of The Garden Gathering Church is to encourage believers in Jesus Christ: to fully embrace the love of God; to walk in freedom; to carry His presence and glory; and to be equipped and trained for the work of the ministry through worship, teachings, and impartation.

“It’s all about Love. When you see His eyes of Love for you, nothing else matters. That’s it. That’s all you need to know.”

-Brandy Helton

