Behind The Scenes

6-18-17

Ephesians 6:11 (ESV)

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against **the schemes of the devil**.

In this world with all our human activity, there is a personified, tangible evil scheming all around us.

These Schemes from the entity, the Devil:

Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against **the cosmic powers over this present darkness**, against **the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places**.

There is Personified "Evil" in this world:

- √ the schemes of the devil
- **✓** the cosmic powers over this present darkness
- ✓ the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places

Wisdom says, "Pay Attention!"

1 Peter 5:8 (ESV)

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

There is Personified "Evil" in this world:

- ✓ Your adversary the devil
- ✓ prowls around like a roaring lion
- √ seeking someone to devour



The Devil is loud desiring to do us harm. However, we have all the necessary protection we need in Christ. This frightening information is presented so that we will not be ignorant. Not only are we equipped through Christ; there are also millions of good angels ministering to us for our good and protection. Even though we do not see them, God wants us to know that they are present working on our behalf. In the OT, God give us a beautiful picture of the angelic presence.

2 Kings 6:16-17 (ESV)

¹⁶ He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So 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.

Also in the NT, we see the angelic ministry of protection of believers. Peter was imprisoned, chained, with a guard standing outside his cell.

Acts 12:7 (ESV)

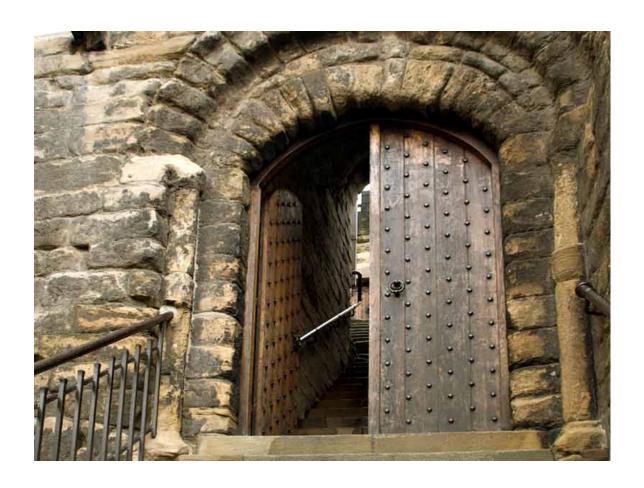
And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands.

As the angel was leading Peter out of prison, they come to an iron gate, which opens by itself.

Acts 12:10 (ESV)

When they had passed the first and the second guard, **they came to the Iron Gate** leading into the city. **It opened for them of its own accord!**

This verse always speaks to me. The Holy Spirit says that anytime, we come to a locked iron gate in our lives that God will send HIS angel to open it. Be encouraged God will open the Iron Gate that is before you.



The message is entitled <u>Behind the Scenes</u>! In this world we see all the physical and visible realities. While these are true and real, just as true and real are the spiritual realities <u>"Behind the Scenes"</u> all around us. We need to open our spiritual eyes.

Angels are ministers sent to serve believers.

Hebrews 1:7 (ESV)

Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire."

Hebrews 1:14 (ESV)

Are they not all **ministering spirits sent out to serve** for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Madrid – Unable to board our plane in Madrid, Spain suddenly a very pleasant young man appeared speaking perfect English and immediately took us through a locked gate passed an armed security guard and drove us to our plane just before it took off.

BCC – Many testified to seeing angels over the land and over building and in the sanctuary of BCC.

These angelic manifestations seem to be confirming our message and ministry while promising protection to all the people who attend!

With confidence when we stand before our own Iron Gate we have confidence that God's angels will open it!

God opens our Iron Gates because HE loves us!

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Prophetic Team
Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.