

# The Angel With A Broken Heart



Leslie Michael



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**Leslie Michael**

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## **Acknowledgments**

With love and gratitude to my daughter Anne for challenging me to write this book.

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Numerous friends assisted me and insisted that I finish this book. I thank the librarians at the Douglas College Library, Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada, who readily and happily directed me to books and other references.

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This book could never have been written without my recourse to the inspired word of God as laid down in

the Holy Bible. Neither would it have been possible without the work of all the authors and historians who have gone before me.

Though this book is built on the foundations of history, it is also the result of my imagination. I am solely responsible for any intentional or accidental straying away from history that the world has, without question or reservation, come to accept as fact.

It is for this precise reason that I set about to find out how, after the creation of the world, the creation of the first man and woman, a talking serpent (Satan) came to be in Paradise — the Garden of Eden. The story that follows is mine and mine alone. I accept full responsibility for it.

A number of books introduced me to the fall of Lucifer, the most magnificent angel, created from fire and embedded with precious stones, and the his seduction of Eve. Chiefly among them are the epic poem *Paradise Lost*, by John Milton and *Patriarchs and Prophets*, by E. G. White.

I acquired additional information about the life of Mary and Joseph before they were betrothed from various articles, magazines, and books as nothing is mentioned in the Holy Bible. These are too numerous to list.

Pounding away at the keyboard, buried in one's own thoughts, and living in a very private world would

have been unthinkable if it were not for family and friends who not only helped me find the strength and courage but who also filled my life with joy, laughter, and happiness in what would otherwise, have been a very lonely time.



## **Dedication**

This book is dedicated, with great respect, to the people of the Middle East — the past, the present, and to come.

The Jews and the Arabs — two of God's very special people, descended from a common father, Abraham — were both promised greatness and blessings. Abraham hailed from the city of Ur in present day Iraq, while Hagar, the maidservant of Sarah and the surrogate wife of Abraham, came from Egypt. The Holy Bible gives vivid accounts of the open and unguarded border between these people. Abraham crossed into Egypt because of a famine that raged on his side. Joseph, who had been sold into slavery, witnessed his father and brothers cross over a few times. The gentle and kind daughter of the Pharaoh braved the harsh law of her ruthless father when she took the baby Moses as her own child. Her kindness and compassion for the child, saved for the Hebrews, the man who would eventually become the great lawgiver and who would be the one to lead the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land.

Centuries later King Solomon's marriage to another Pharaoh's daughter brought him great wealth. And some



five thousand years later Mary, Joseph, and the child, Jesus, fled from Judea into the sanctuary of Egypt.

Yet, over the centuries, they have fought savage wars, brother against brother, failing to heed the divine promises of God, that both nations would rise to greatness. And as the intensity of the intolerance and hatred continues between these two peoples, I remind them, most humbly, that God does not speak vainly nor does he make idle promises. I earnestly implore them, not to doubt as Abraham did, but, in the face of serious difficulties, misunderstandings, distrust, and hostility, to be steadfast in their faith and trust in God.

This book, then, is a prayer for them: that Heaven will touch earth and hope will be renewed; That Almighty God, in His infinite goodness and mercy, will grant them peace, will protect them always, will keep them safe from all disquiet, and will calm the storms that rage in their hearts and in their minds.

## **Introduction**

A long time ago and far away, a woman waited — and waited. She loved her husband dearly and was saddened by the fact that she was unable to bear him children. She was well past her child-bearing years and concluded that she was cursed with an empty womb. Nevertheless, she was still determined that her husband would have descendants to perpetuate his name. She made a momentous decision.

Sarah, the woman, told her husband, Abraham, that the Lord had kept her from having children. She brought her maidservant, Hagar, to Abraham and suggested that he should take on a surrogate wife so that he may have sons through her. Abraham complied from the earnest desire of the fulfillment of God's promise that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in heaven and countless as the grains of sand on a seashore. Hagar was from Egypt and she had chosen to travel with Abraham's camp when he passed through that country and to serve as Sarah's maid.

Hagar soon found herself with child and looked scornfully on her mistress. Perhaps she upbraided Sarah for her barrenness and boasted of her prospect of bringing an heir to Abraham and thus fulfilling God's promise to

him. Or maybe Sarah was filled with anger and jealousy and blamed Abraham for Hagar's insolence and disdain. Abraham reminded her that Hagar was her maid and told her to do whatever she wishes. Hagar was so despised by Sarah that she fled from her.

While she wandered in the wilderness on her way back to her own country, Meteron, an angel of the Lord, the very first angel to be mentioned in the Sacred Scriptures, found her by a fountain of water. Addressing her by name and as Sarah's maidservant, Hagar told him she was fleeing her mistress because she could not tolerate the harsh way in which she had been treated. The angel assured her that God had heard of her affliction and instructed her to go back to her mistress and to submit to her abusive treatment. Hagar was obedient to the good council and the angel assured her of the mercy that God had in store for her and for her offspring; that they also would be too numerous to count. He foretold that she would bear a son and his name will be Ishmael and that he will dwell in the presence of his brethren. Hagar proclaimed the name of the Lord and was gracious and grateful for the help God had given to a woman in distress. Hagar did as the angel had commanded her. She returned to Sarah, her mistress, and was submissive to her and eventually gave birth to her son, Ishmael.

God then spoke to Abraham assuring him that his wife, Sarah, would be blessed with a son and he shall be called Isaac. He promised him that His covenant will be with him and his generations; that he would be the father of many nations; that He will make him exceedingly fruitful and that He will give unto him and his generations after him, all the land of Canaan from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates, and that He will be their God forever. Abraham doubted the word of God as he was 100 years old and his wife, Sarah, was 90.

Abraham still clung to the belief that it would be through Ishmael that God's divine purposes would be fulfilled. With great affection for his son, he interceded for him, exclaiming, "O that Ishmael might live before Thee!" God assured him that He will bless him as well and make him fertile and will multiply him exceedingly. He will be the father of twelve chieftains and will make of him a great nation.

Abraham then remembered the covenant he made with God that all male children were to be circumcised and so he took all male members of his household for this ritual. Thus Abraham and his son, Ishmael, were circumcised on the same day. Eventually, and according to God's faithful promise, Sarah bore Abraham a son and named him Isaac.

The birth of Isaac brought joy and gladness to Abraham, Sarah, and members of their household. Unfortunately for Hagar, this was an event that would see her fondly cherished hopes and dreams dashed. As the two sons grew, Sarah noticed that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was playing with her son, Isaac. She demanded that Abraham drive that slave and her son away as she desired that no son of that slave would gain any inheritance with her son, Isaac. Abraham was greatly distressed, especially on account of his son, Ishmael. But God told him to heed the demands of his wife, Sarah, and assured him that He will make a great nation of the son of the slave woman since he was also his offspring.

Early the next morning, Abraham got some bread and a skin of water, gave them to Hagar and sent her away with her son, Ishmael. As she wandered aimlessly in the wilderness, the water was used up. So she put the child down under a shrub and prayed she will not watch the child die. As she sat opposite him, the child began to cry. God heard the boy's cry and Meteron, an angel of the Lord, called to Hagar from heaven telling her not to be afraid for God had heard the boy's cry. He then commanded Hagar to arise and lift the boy and hold him by the hand for God planned to make of him a great nation. Her eyes were then opened and she saw a well of water. She went and filled

the skin with water, let the boy drink and continued on her way.

God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the wilderness and became an expert bowman. With his home in the Paran, his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

God then put Abraham to the test because he had doubted the Word of the Lord. He was chosen to be the father of the faithful and to stand as a shining example for future generations. But he was sadly lacking in faith. He had demonstrated this many years ago in Egypt by concealing the fact that Sarah was his wife and persuaded her to masquerade as his sister. He was unfaithful in his marriage by having a child through Hagar, his wife's maidservant. God now commanded Abraham to take his son, Isaac, up a mountain and sacrifice him as a burnt offering. On reaching the place that God had told him, Abraham built an altar, arranged the wood on it, bound his son, and put him on top on the altar. He then reached for his knife to slaughter his son, but angel Meteron called to him and told him not to lay a hand on the boy.

The great act of faith and obedience of Abraham stands like a beacon, illuminating the path of God's faithful. He had chosen not to offer any excuses or reason

that the slaying of his son would contradict God's promise to him. He was implicitly obedient to God's command.

It must be noted that the two brothers, Ishmael and Isaac, often played together as children and that they were both saved by the angel of the Lord. As they went their separate ways, their races increased and multiplied with no one paying any attention to the word of God. Peace, tranquility, and harmony should have prevailed in their Holy Lands. Instead, it is anger, suspicion, hatred, and war that dominate their regions.

The guns are never silent and the skies rain death. A great tragedy is unfolding. Since the dawn of time, men have sought peace, but power-hungry men and military alliances have served only to disturb the peace, paving the path to war, and leaving in its wake untold sorrow and suffering. If the people of the Middle East do not come up with a just and more equitable solution Armageddon, the final battle, will be upon us. The intelligence and the hard work of these people, their spiritual strength and faith, ought to be channeled into an earnest desire for peace that would raise them up from the ever-fearful conditions that they live in and turn it into a position of dignity.

In spite of centuries of violence, hatred, intolerance, and armed conflicts, both nations are still standing. It is only through a meeting of minds that a common ground

would be found to bring peace and harmony to their troubled lands. It is only then that they would experience the joy that flows from hope.







*Adapted from original art by Liliya Popova*

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*And it came to pass, when the Lord Jesus was born at Bethlehem of Judaea, in the time of King Herod, behold, Magi came from the East to Jerusalem, as Zeraduscht had predicted; and there were with them Gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And they adored him, and presented him their gifts.*

*Then the Lady Mary took one of the swaddling-bands, and, on account of the smallness of her means, gave it to them; and they received it from her with the greatest marks of honor.*

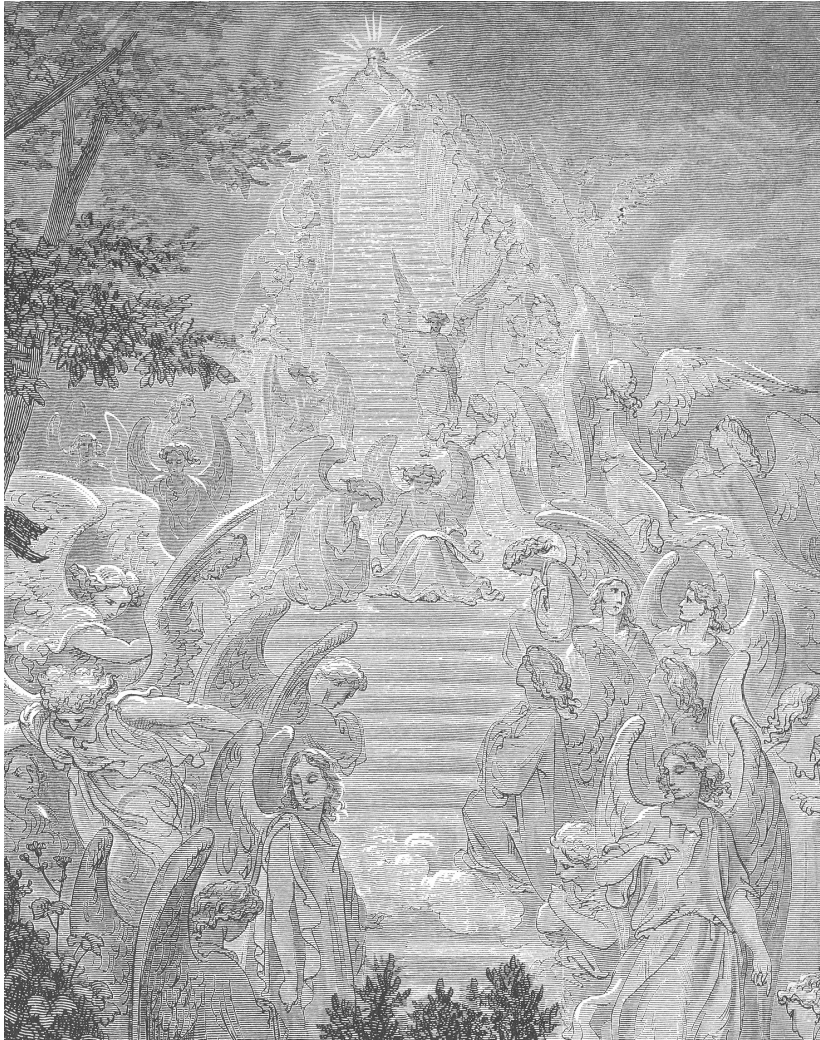
*And in the same hour there appeared to them an angel in the form of a star which had before guided them on their journey; and they went away, following the guidance of its light, until they arrived in their own country.*

*— from The Arabic Gospel of the Infancy of Jesus.*



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*God revealing His divine plan to the angelic hosts*



# 1

## The Heavenly Council

**I**n the beginning God saw the beauty, harmony, and the glorious peace that existed in Heaven. In that universal kingdom of His, He had placed magnificent supernatural beings, called angels, who were radiant with light and could travel with unimaginable speed to do God's bidding. They could also assume any shape, form, or size and moved freely among the stars, their movements being like heavenly bodies. They formed the government of God according to His law of love without being forced into obedience but rendering service freely and with a sense of love, not only for God but also for one

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another, thereby, creating that tranquility, peace, and perfect harmony.

But God also saw that the void below was a formless wasteland. It was empty and darkness covered the abyss. There was nothing in it. It was a formless mass of utter chaos, emptiness, and confusion. It was barren, desolate, foreboding, and a mighty wind swept over it. God is a good and wise creator, a higher being of incredible spiritual and intellectual qualities. He is omnipotent, omnipresent, and omniscient. He is infinite and in His infinite wisdom, absolute power, and absolute goodness God decided to bring order out of chaos. He would create Earth – another world – and give Heaven to Earth.

God assembled together the multitude of His angelic hosts and explained His divine plan to the heavenly council. He also let it be known that in addition to creating a new world He would also create man. He would be lower in status than the angels but created in the image and likeness of God. He also made it abundantly clear to the heavenly hosts that even though man would be created inferior to them they would be commanded to treat him as an equal and honor him. Man

would not be created to be trampled upon by superior forces, to be crushed under the conqueror's heel, to be enslaved and robbed of his possessions. He reminded the angelic hosts that they were not created to rule the lesser beings.

Lucifer did not think it was a great idea or even a divine plan. He was the "Bearer of Light," the "Shining Star of Dawn," the "Son of the Morning." He was a Supernatural Being, of dazzling brightness, of majestic, awesome beauty with the gift of supreme power and wisdom. He was perfect in every way from the day he was created from fire and embedded with precious stones. He was the most honored of God's angels, highest in power and glory among the angelic hosts.

It seemed to Lucifer that God was planning to create a new world order and place in it a creature far below him and that he and the heavenly hosts would be commanded to pay homage to this inferior being. He had always lovingly acknowledged the supremacy and majesty of God. Now it seemed that instead of God creating order out of the chaos below, he was creating confusion and disharmony in Heaven above. Lucifer was the most loyal lover of God and the most amazing and

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striking image of Lucifer was his great love and deep devotion to his Creator. He often prostrated himself before God and poured out his love and adoration. Lucifer was also loved and respected by his fellow angels. But God was now demanding the unthinkable: creating a creature called “man” and ordering the angelic hosts to bow in reverence to that man whom God said would be the noblest of all His creations.

Lucifer vowed he would not do this. He could not possibly imagine that anyone could be more glorious than he was. He was too proud and that cardinal sin prevented him from perceiving the Divine image of God which would be placed in man. That sin of pride prevented Lucifer from understanding God’s plan of creating and giving man, just like He had done with Lucifer and the angelic hosts, the ultimate gift of establishing a loving relationship with his Creator; of sharing Heaven with Earth. God was also giving the angels the opportunity to be kind and loving to someone who would be their inferior. Lucifer failed miserably to understand that his love for God would be reflected in his love for someone not his equal. The sad lack of humility led Lucifer to self-indulgence and utter dissatisfaction began settling in. He



was not content with being the most magnificent of all angels but also coveted the homage due only to God. That inflated sense of entitlement placed him in the dreadful position of choosing between the Divine Order, the Angelic Order, or the Human Order. He made a fateful choice.

Calling all the angels together Lucifer held a full council. Like a coach before an important game he explained the situation. With head held high and eyes blazing he made it clear that to be weak and indecisive was miserable and to do nothing was not an option. After all the faithful services they had rendered it seemed that they had been mere slaves. God had turned His back on the angels and he called for vengeance. He assured them that he should not and would not bow to man. He felt far superior and was convinced that it should be man who should pay homage to him. This great feeling of self-importance convinced him this was a terrible injustice not only to him but to the other angels as well. They should feel free to claim their rights and not be deluded slaves bowing to an inferior being. Other proud angels who shared Lucifer's thoughts, ambitions, and visions cheered him on.

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Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, and Meteron were very perturbed over this unhappy situation. Michael, whose very name means “Who is like God,” was the Prince of the angelic hosts, the guardian of the keys of Heaven and God’s vice regent. He was patient and merciful. He was chivalrous and the defender of the universe and Supreme Commander of the angelic legions. God committed to him twelve legions, each consisting of 144,000 angels. Each had a divisional commander and it was their duty to maintain peace, law, and order in the universe, reporting directly to Michael.

Gabriel was the Chief Justice of the universe. He was highly intelligent and endowed with great wisdom and knowledge of the heavens. He was holy, just, and truthful. He had under him angels specially trained in intelligence gathering. They traveled the universe gathering information and communicating with other angels in far-flung corners of the heavens. All the information they collected would then be transmitted to Gabriel and, should the need arise, Gabriel himself would journey to any corner of the universe to explain the laws of God and discourage any rebellion. His shuttle diplomacy proved invaluable to the Creator.

Raphael was the Chief Medical Officer. Gifted with the knowledge of science he was a traveling companion to the sick and infirm, healing many on their way and protecting others. He was the angel of prayer, love, joy, and light. He was one of the chosen angels who presented and recorded prayers before God. He was particularly kind to sinners, especially those who returned to righteousness; there was always great rejoicing in Heaven when a sinner repented.

Meteron was the merciful one. A kind-hearted, loving, and compassionate angel, he was always there to comfort the afflicted.

The four archangels were the guardians of the throne of God and represented perfection or totality as in the four cardinal directions. These four rulers or princes of the angelic hosts met with Lucifer and his rebellious followers, Belial, Asmodeus, and Mammon. They reminded them that God was the Supreme Being, the creator of the universe, the almighty and all powerful and that it was His prerogative to do whatever He thought was best. They reminded the dissatisfied angels of God's wisdom and justice and did their best to reconcile them to God's divine plan. God, they reiterated, was loving and

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merciful and would forgive them for their rebellious nature. They placed before them the inevitable and terrifying consequences that would follow from their rebellion if the harmony in heaven was destroyed. They further advised that the unhappy angels should perhaps wait and see the kind of world God had in mind and what sort of creature they were to pay homage to. Lucifer was not impressed nor was he convinced. In his keen and analytical mind he was certain that a wait-and-see approach would be folly. In the distant mirror he saw that inaction and indecision would be fatal and a major disaster because that would give the opposing side precious time to rearm and regroup. Nevertheless, Lucifer promised that he would think it over and in the meanwhile a non-aggression pact would prevail.

Lucifer was greatly encouraged by the fact that one third of the angelic hosts had sided with him. He was also aware of the rumors that many legions of angels in far-flung corners of Heaven were not entirely satisfied with the reign of God and would seize this revolt as an opportunity to join forces with him in a rebellion against God. And that gave him a sense of strength and invincibility. After much discussion with his commanders

over the impending battle and military strategy, Lucifer amassed the rebellious angels on the western side of Heaven and launched a surprise attack. He was fully aware that the eastern side had far more open spaces and was virtually indefensible. He felt positive that this strategic move would prove him victorious and eventually he would push Michael and his loyal angels over the edge and into the abyss below.

Michael was an angel of honor and always kept his word. He never ever dreamed that Lucifer would be a liar, would resort to deceit and would dishonor the truce—the waiting period that they had both agreed upon. It would be impossible to describe the hurt, the heartache, and the sorrow that Michael felt on learning that Lucifer had declared his independence from God—a God of infinite love, warmth, and tenderness. Lucifer was now Satan—an adversary of God, and he had fired the first shot in the battle for Heaven.

## The Heavenly Council

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The incredible story of the great battle for Heaven. Lucifer was the "Bearer of Light," the "Shining Star of Dawn," the "Son of the Morning." He was a magnificent angel of dazzling brightness and awesome beauty. A supernatural being, perfect in every way from the day he was created from fire and embedded with precious stones, he chose to challenge the power and majesty of God.

"Commanding a third of the rebellious angels, Satan ordered twenty-four commanders, two thousand and five hundred senior angels and two hundred and eighty thousand other angels to launch a massive assault against Michael and his loyal angelic hosts. The rumbling of fiery chariots rained fire and thunderbolts unto frontier positions. Angels were flying at incredible speed, conducting both strategic and tactical raids against numerous targets with frightening success. The loyal angels could hardly believe that this battle was taking place. The sheer weight of numbers, the shock of betrayal, the devastating element of surprise and heavy casualties took their toll. The loyal angels began to retreat..."



At a dinner party in the spring of 2007 a woman asked Leslie Michael how the Serpent came to be in the Garden of Eden, free to mingle with Adam and Eve – God's noblest of creations. Mr. Michael admitted he did not know but assured the lady that there must be a story to it. He was determined to find out what could have possibly taken place and set about the unenviable task of putting his research into this book.

Written in a non-confrontational manner, it invites further intelligent discussion and a meaningful dialogue about a magnificent angel who was cast into the Sea of Flames; a revengeful angel who swore vengeance; a rebellious angel who dared to challenge God.

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