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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1466 ~ Gideon and the Angel.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Did you know all the stories in 'Bible Adventures' are true and come from God's holy book, the Bible? The Bible teaches us the truth about the Almighty God, our great Creator. It teaches us how God has been at work throughout history and it still speaks to us these days.

Today's story comes from the time about 300 years after the children of Israel had arrived in the Promised Land. The first settlers had faithfully obeyed the Only True God and had got rid of many idol-worshipping peoples. But life became easier for later generations and they were not careful to keep God's laws. They inter-married with idol-worshipping people and followed their ways. God had told them they must **never** worship false idol gods.

In the Ten Commandments He said, 'You shall have no other gods beside Me. You shall not make any idols. You shall not bow down to them nor serve them.' Do you understand **why** God said that? Our Creator is the God of truth. He is all-good, all-wise and all-powerful. He is the only One worthy of honour and worship.

Have you ever thought about the types of idols those people were bowing down to? Some idols were carved from a block of timber. Others were shaped out of gold or silver by skilled workmen. In Psalm 135 from the Bible, idols are described as having ears but could not hear and eyes but could not see. People had to carry them around or they went no where.

Our great enemy, Satan, works through these idol images to lead people into spiritual darkness and wrongdoing. The Bible book Romans, chapter 1, shows that everything in the world around us speaks about the great and wise Creator, but people choose not to yield to Him. ‘They say they are wise, but they are fools; instead of worshipping the immortal God, they worship images made to look like mortal man, or birds or animals or reptiles.....they exchange the truth of God for a lie; they worship and serve what God has created, instead of the Creator Himself.’

The Israelites fell into this trap of worshipping idols again and again through the generations until they were taken into captivity in Babylon. That city was full of idols and finally they learnt that lesson.

In these modern times we think we are more advanced and more knowledgeable. We can carry our idol gods around in our minds. We all know someone who wants to have buckets of money. There is a lifestyle to go with such obvious wealth and some will sacrifice friendships, family and even their own health to try to achieve their goal. Their dreams, ambitions and goals become their idol gods. In the Bible book of 1 John chapter 5, we are warned to keep ourselves from idols and false gods.

An idol is anything and everything that would occupy the place in your heart due to God. Any sort of substitute for Him that would take first place in your life is an idol.

The tribes living near the Israelites worshipped a man-made idol god called Baal. They also lived in fear of it. The priests of Baal taught that this idol could bring floods and drought. It could ruin their crops. It could stop women having babies. People believed they had to do terrible foolish things to turn away the anger of this evil god. So they cut their bodies. They sacrificed their precious children on the Baal altar. They gave their daughters and sons for evil sexual practices in the temples of Baal. All this grieved and angered the only true God. He had told the Israelites to destroy everyone and everything to do with Baal-worship.

And now God's chosen people had turned away from Him. They had forgotten the wonderful ways He had helped their nation. They started worshipping Baal too. How could anyone make an image with his own hands, and then fall down and worship it? In the Bible book John, chapter 3, the Lord Jesus Christ said this, "Light has come into the world, but people love darkness rather than light." And Romans, chapter 1, also says people **refuse** to keep in mind the true knowledge about God, so He has given them over to let them do the evil things they have chosen. God does not **force** us to love and obey Him, but He gives us strong warnings about what will happen if we rebel.

Satan and his demons all work in our world to turn people away from the one true God. They can reach people through man-made idols. Nowadays, people may not bow down to statues, but in their hearts they bow down to other sorts of gods – money, fame, power, sex, - anything that keeps them from obeying their Creator.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

Have you ever wondered why Gideon broke down the Baal alter at night? He was too afraid of his father's household and the men of the city to do it by day. He should have known that doing such a thing would not be a secret for long. Tell me, are you living in fear?

Are you one of God's children? Do you believe Jesus, God's Sinless Son died to save **you** from eternal death? If you do, then you are **now** a child of God. You belong to Him. You cannot **now** honour or worship any other god. As one of God's children, you can stand against Satan's power over your life.

The Israelites could not do this because they were trying to serve two gods – the Holy God, Jehovah AND the evil Baal idol.

In the Bible book Matthew, chapter 6, the Lord Jesus Christ said, “No-one can serve two masters; he will hate one and love the other; he will be loyal to one and despise the other.” You cannot love God AND be greedy for this world’s riches. You cannot serve both.

The book 2 Timothy, chapter 1, says this, “God did not give us a spirit of fear, but He has given us a spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” Isn’t that wonderful! You can put away all your fears. You can know you are safe. Like Paul, you too can say, “I am full of confidence, because I know Whom I have trusted, and I am sure He is able to keep what I have entrusted to Him.” Psalm 56 says: In God I trust; I will not be afraid.

MUSIC PAUSE - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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