

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**  
**Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 21**  
**Hell**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. Hell is the opposite of heaven.
- B. The Lord does not send anyone to hell; evil people cast themselves into hell.
- C. The universals of heaven are: love of ruling from the love of use; love of possessing the goods of the world from the love of performing uses by their means; love truly conjugal. The universals of hell are: love of ruling from the love of self; love of possessing the goods of others from the love of the world; scortatory love.
- D. The Lord governs both heaven and hell, maintaining a balance between them so that people can be in freedom.
- E. There are angels of various heavens who govern the hells. They inspect the hells, moderate them, and keep them in order. (HH 543; AC 8237)
- F. The evil spirits in hell are governed by fear of penalties for doing evil, for this is the only means of controlling their ferocity. (HH 543)
- G. The Lord desires to limit the misery of the evil spirits as much as He can, protecting them from themselves. (HH 595)
- H. Evil spirits believe that they are powerful, but they can win against only those who are in evil.
- I. All power against evil is from the Lord. (AE 209:3)
- J. All in hell perform uses, but they are the poorest kinds of uses.

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. Remember that the Lord gives everyone in the spiritual world a body, clothes, home, and so on that match the kind of love he has inside.
    - a. The angels in heaven have good loves: they love the Lord, and they love other people. So they have beautiful bodies, homes, and clothes.

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 21

- b. The evil spirits in hell have bad loves: they love themselves and the world more than anything else, and they hate everything that is good and true. So the evil spirits have ugly bodies, rags for clothes, and dirty, tumbledown houses to match the bad loves they have inside.
2. Hell isn't a nice place at all. It's awful! The light is very dim, so the evil spirits can hardly see through the fog, mists, and smoke that fill the air. The smells there are the worst you can possibly imagine. And there are fierce animals and ugly plants there.
3. Would you like to live in a place like that? Of course not! But the evil spirits love all the ugliness of hell because it matches the ugliness of the loves they have inside them.

### B. Read the Story

1. Read the attached, "An Angel Talks About Hell."

### C. Ideas to Discuss

1. What was Daniel's job in the world? (He was a policeman; he liked to protect people from those who do bad things.)
2. What was Daniel's job in heaven? (Helping the Lord govern the hells)
3. What happened to an evil spirit if Daniel looked at him in a certain way? (He would fall to the ground and be still.)
4. The Lord allowed Daniel and Nathan to see into hell. What did Nathan see when he first looked into hell? (At first he saw wild beasts running in the forest.)
5. Then they saw an evil spirit. What did he look like? (He looked terrible: He had fierce, glowing eyes, ragged clothes, smoke coming from his mouth, and bony ankles instead of feet.)
6. What did that evil spirit love most? (To be more important than anyone else and to tell everyone what to do)
7. What did he think he was? (King over all kings. He would sit on a throne and make lots of rules.)
8. Did the evil spirit spend all of his time pretending to be a king over all kings? (No, he had to work part of each day for food and clothing.)
9. Daniel told Nathan about one time when he met an evil spirit in the world of spirits who was boasting of his great power. What made him cry out in horror and throw himself back into hell? (A tiny baby from heaven)
10. The evil spirits under Daniel's supervision wanted to be more important than everyone else. What do some of the other evil spirits in hell love or want to do? (Lie to people and trick them; have lots of money, rob people; hurt marriages; hate people and want to murder them)
11. What do all evil spirits have in common? (They refuse to let the Lord lead them; they want to lead themselves.)

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 21

12. Does the Lord love the evil spirits? (Yes, He loves them even though they are very bad. He takes care of them and tries to make them as happy as He can.)
13. Do the evil spirits want to leave hell to live somewhere else? (No, they like living in hell because they can do bad things there.)
14. At the end of the story, Nathan decided what kind of work he wanted to do to help the Lord. What was it? (Govern the hells)
15. How do the angels help the Lord govern the hells? (The Lord allows them to see into the hells. They make sure the evil spirits aren't hurting each other too much. And they protect good people from the evil spirits. Sometimes the angels go into hell to calm things down.)

### III. Enrichment Activities

#### A. Music

1. "You Shall Love the Lord Your God With All Your Heart and Mind," *FIRST SONGS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN*, p. 7.
2. "Angel Song," Lori Soneson (Odhner). (Sheet music attached to Lesson #4; you can listen to it on LORI'S SONGS II, Side 2, near the end of the tape.)

#### B. Activities

#### C. Project

1. The Evil Spirit: Have children use red and orange chalk or oil pastels (crayons will do) on black construction paper to draw a picture of the evil spirit described in the story: fierce, glowing eyes; ragged clothes; smoke coming from his mouth (gray?); and bony ankles instead of feet. They could add some ugly plants or a tumbledown shack of a house, but have the evil spirit be the focus of the project.
2. King Over All Kings: Using the same materials as above, have children depict an evil spirit on a throne ruling over others. Better yet, they could draw several spirits on thrones to show that all of them in this particular hell want to rule over the rest.

### IV. Teaching Aids

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. *The Spiritual World* by Hugo Odhner, Chapters 19, 20, 22.
- B. *Heaven and Hell*, Part III.

## AN ANGEL TALKS ABOUT HELL

Daniel was in his home in heaven helping the Lord govern the hells. He had been a policeman in the world. He liked protecting people from those who do bad things.

The Lord made Daniel very powerful against the evil spirits in hell. He was strong and handsome with dark hair and bright blue eyes. When he looked at good people, his face was gentle and kind; but when he looked at evil spirits, he seemed stern and forbidding. Daniel could look at an evil spirit in such a way that he would fall to the ground and be still.

Usually Daniel was alone when he supervised a part of hell. But today a new angel was with him, learning more about hell.

"Look down there, Nathan!" said Daniel. The Lord had made it so they could see into hell. "Those evil spirits want to be more important than everyone else. They want to tell everyone what to do."

"But I don't see any people," Nathan said. "I see only wild beasts running in a dark forest."

"LOOK again, Nathan. Tell me what you see now," replied Daniel.

"There is an evil spirit who looks terrible. He is dressed in rags. His eyes are fierce and glowing, and he has smoke coming from his mouth. He has no feet, just bony ankles without any flesh!" exclaimed Nathan. "Why does he look like that?"

"That poor man thinks he is a king over all kings," Daniel said. "He sits on a throne and makes many rules, but no one obeys him. There are more than two hundred evil spirits in that part of hell, and each one thinks he is king over all other kings."

"Do they sit on thrones all the time, pretending to be king?" asked Nathan.

"No," replied Daniel. "They have to work for part of the day if they want food and clothing. Then they are allowed to talk with each other, eat, and sleep. But what they love most is pretending that they are kings. This makes them happy, for a while." Both Daniel and Nathan felt it was a shame that the evil spirits wouldn't let the Lord help them be happier than this.

Daniel continued. "There are many more evil spirits who want to be in charge. Some of them try to control others through trickery or by threatening to hurt them. They hate people who love the Lord because they have no power over them. They wish they could hurt good people and make them unhappy, but the Lord won't let them."

"Are you in charge of that part of hell?" asked Nathan.

"No, the Lord governs the hells, and He has many angels helping Him. I am just one of the angels helping Him with this part of hell. We keep the evil spirits from hurting each other too much. They are very cruel to each other, you see. We also protect the people in the world of spirits and on earth from these wicked spirits."

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 21

Then Nathan asked him, "How do you do it? How do you supervise the evil spirits?"

And Daniel answered him, "The Lord lets us see into the hells, and we watch to make sure that everything stays under control. The evil spirits know we are watching, so they are afraid to do very wicked things. And the Lord sends us into hell sometimes to calm things down."

"Are you ever afraid?" asked Nathan.

Daniel reassured him. "No; the Lord protects all of us who love Him and try to do what is good. The evil spirits can't hurt people who are good."

"I have heard that one angel can defeat a thousand evil spirits," said Nathan.

"Yes, that's true. And the innocence of a child sends evil spirits away, too," said Daniel. "Once I met an evil spirit in the world of spirits. He didn't know that I was an angel, and he boasted about his great power. He laughed at me when I said that he had no power against the good. Then a woman appeared with a tiny baby from heaven. The evil spirit couldn't stand to be near the sweet innocence of the baby. He cried out in horror and threw himself into hell!"

Daniel stopped talking to look into hell again. He saw an evil spirit there who was being punished for doing something very bad. The other evil spirits were allowed to punish him, but they were being too cruel to him. Nathan didn't know how it happened, but suddenly the evil spirit was freed from those who were tormenting him. Daniel had helped him. Nathan could see why the Lord had angels helping Him govern the hells.

"Are the other parts of hell like this?" asked Nathan.

"No. Hell has just as much variety as heaven. There are many societies in hell, and they are all different from each other. Some evil spirits love to lie to people and trick them. Other evil spirits want lots of money; many of them are robbers. Some evil spirits hate true marriage love, and they try to hurt marriages. And there are evil spirits who are so filled with hatred that they want to murder people. Each evil spirit is different from the others, but they all have one thing in common. When they lived on earth, they refused to let the Lord lead them to heaven. They wanted to lead themselves, and they led themselves into hell."

Nathan was overwhelmed by what he had learned about hell. After awhile, he said, "And although the evil spirits turn away from Him, the Lord loves them anyway and takes care of them."

"Yes," answered Daniel. "He loves everyone, and He gives the evil spirits as much happiness as He can. But they don't want heavenly happiness. They love doing bad things, so the Lord can't give them very much happiness."

"Do the evil spirits ever want to leave hell?" asked Nathan.

"Sometimes they try to leave for a while so they can hurt someone good, but the angels see them, and then they have to go back into hell. But they never want to leave hell to go live somewhere else. They like hell because they can do the bad things they love. They don't like being punished when they do too much evil, but it's the only way the Lord can control them; and the evil spirits say they would much rather live in hell than out of it. They couldn't stand to live anywhere else."

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 21

Nathan was quiet for a while. Then he said, "I think I would like to help the Lord govern the hells also."

"That's why He let you visit me today," replied Daniel. And Nathan sat with him the rest of the morning as Daniel did his work supervising a part of hell.

(Adapted from: *Heaven Hell* 543; *Arcana Coelestia* 8237; *Spiritual Experiences* 291; *Conjugal Love* 263, 264)



