Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School - Lessons for Intermediate Level

Lesson 31: THE POWER OF THE LORD'S WORD John 3:27; Apocalypse Revealed 566

READING:

The Power of the Lord's Word by Michele Bongers Smith, based on John 3:27, Apocalypse Revealed 566. (Please see attached book, illustrated by Jacqueline S. Bostock.)

PROJECT: Group picture

Supplies:

Gold wrapping paper (or a poster board of yellow or white)

Several colors of glitter

Scraps of shiny colored paper

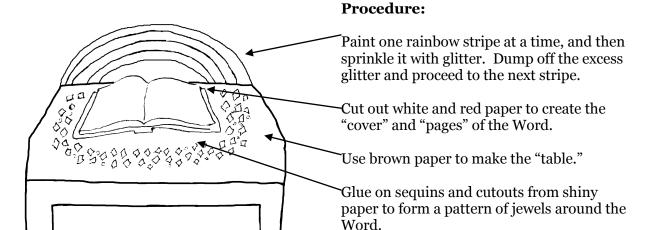
Large paper sheet of each color: brown red and white

Sequins

Glue

Scissors

Container and paintbrush for glue

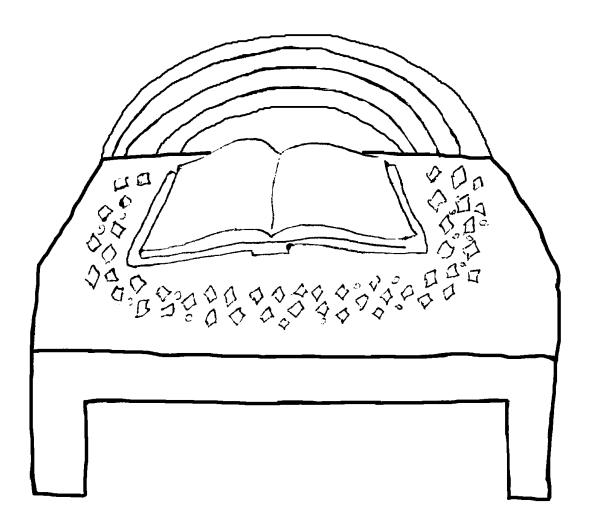


Have someone copy onto the open Word:

No man can receive anything except it be given him from heaven.

John 3:27

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Quote for Picture

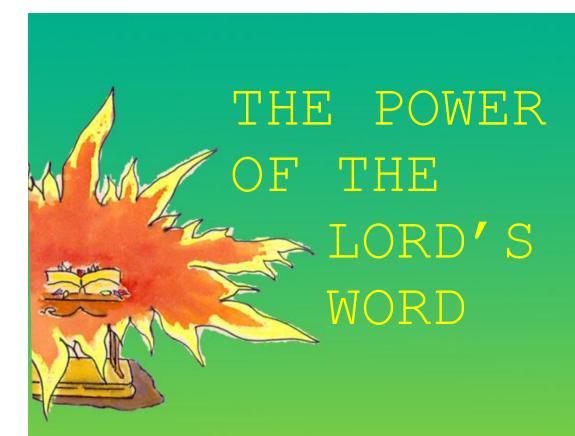
Make one photocopy of the following quotation from *Apocalypse Revealed*. Then cut it out and glue to the top or bottom of the picture.

(Some Angelic Spirits See a Beautiful Sight)

And they came, and entered into a chamber, the walls of which shone as if from gold; and they saw there also a table, upon which lay the Word, set around with precious stones in heavenly form.

And the angel keeper said, "When the Word is opened, a light beams forth thence of ineffable brightness; and at the same time there appears from the precious stones a rainbow above and around the Word."

Apocalypse Revealed 566



Retold and illustrated from *Apocalypse Re-*vealed 566

Michèle Bongers Smith

Graphics by Jacqueline Bostock

An Easy-reader book

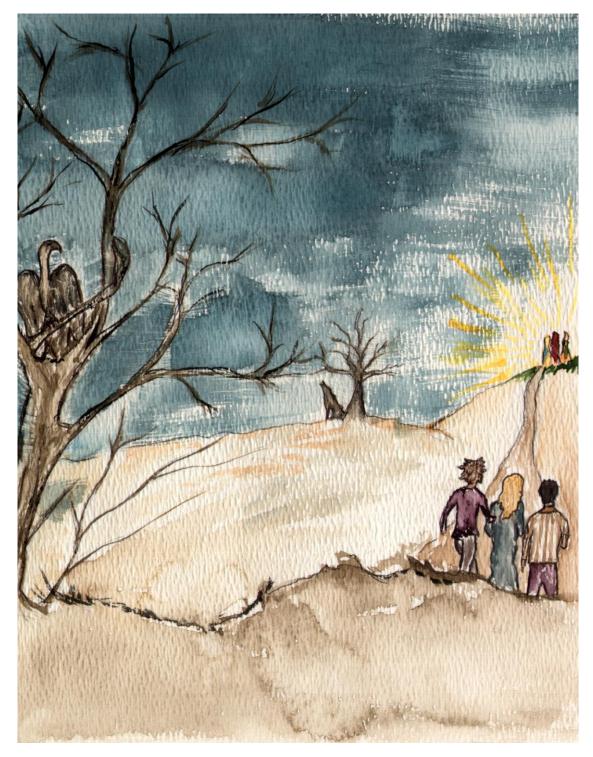
"There are many wonderful things proceeding from the Word that have relation to the power of the truth within it. This power is so great that if described it would surpass all belief....

In short, the power of the Lord proceeding from the Word is infinite."

The True Christian Relgion 209:5 by Emanuel Swedenborg

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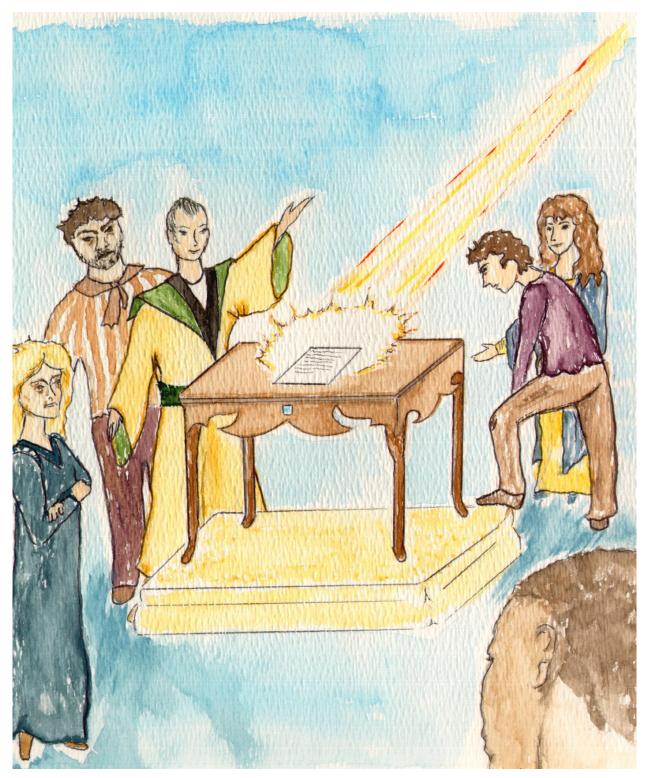
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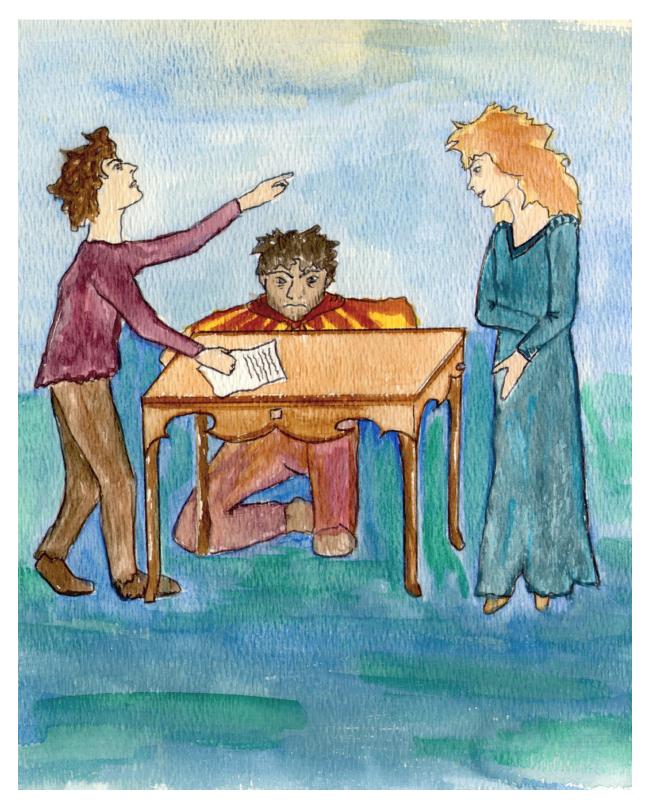
Once upon a time some evil spirits were allowed to go up from hell into the world of spirits. There they met with three angels. The angels told them that only people who look to the Lord and follow Him can see the Truth. They told the evil spirits that they couldn't see any truths for themselves. The evil spirits grew angry because they didn't agree. They thought they knew many truths. So the Lord allowed them to see if they were right.



The angels took them to a place in the world of spirits where light shines down from heaven onto a table. The evil spirits saw a wonderful thing.



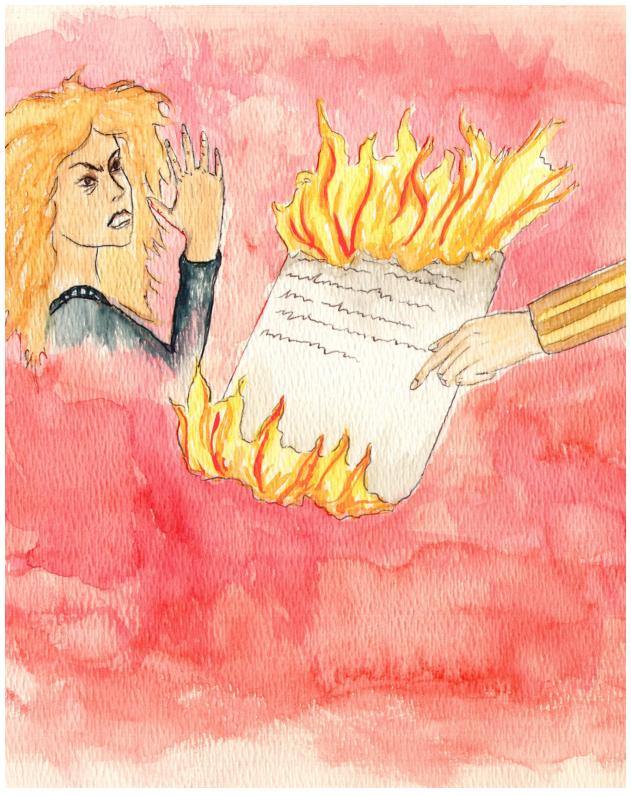
When something true from the Lord's Word was written on a piece of paper and laid on the table, the paper shone like a star! It shone because it had a real truth written on it.



The angels told the evil spirits to write something they thought was true on a piece of paper. They placed the paper on the table. . . .



From far away that paper also shone. But when they moved closer to take a better look, the light from heaven vanished, and the paper turned black! When they tried to touch the paper it burst into flames! This was to show them that what they thought was true, was not.



The evil spirits were told not to touch the writing on the paper. If they did, it would burn their fingers and an explosion would be heard.



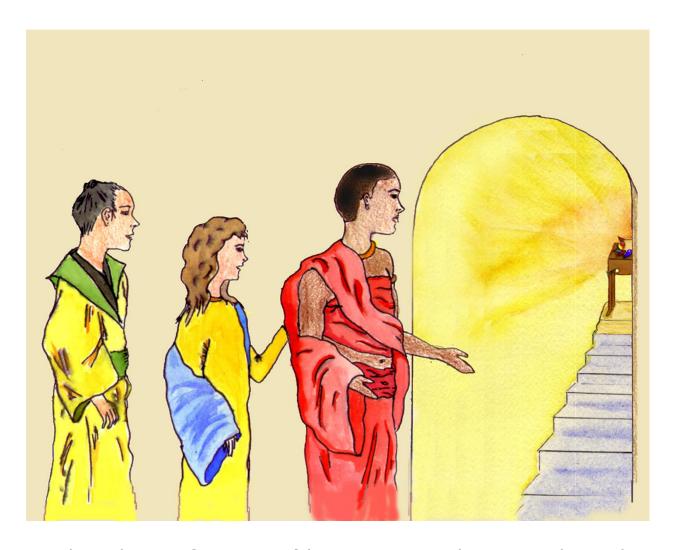
The angels told the evil spirits that this was because they had taken the Lord's truths and used them in a bad way.

The evil spirits looked up. Heaven looked like the color of blood to them. Then everything turned dark and black.

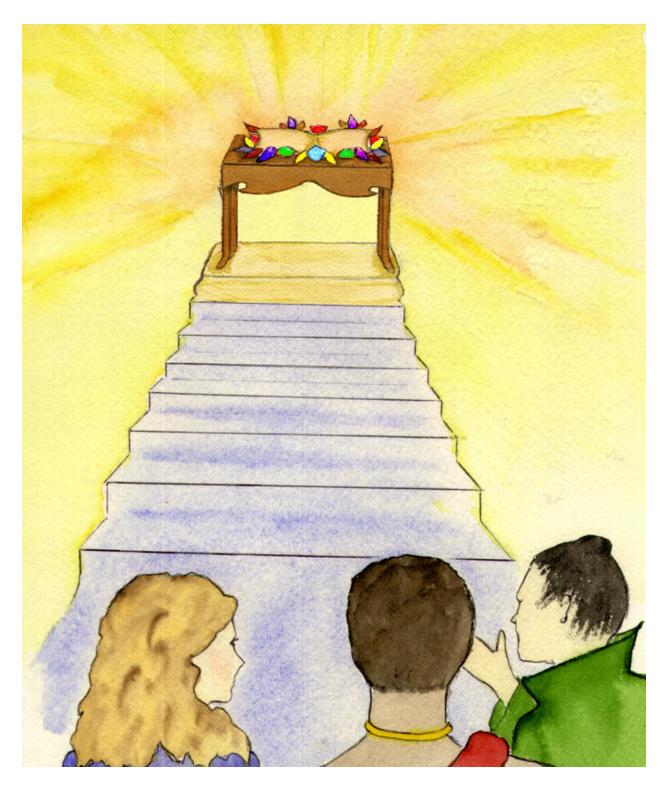
The angels looked at the evil spirits. The evil spirits looked like bats and owls to them!



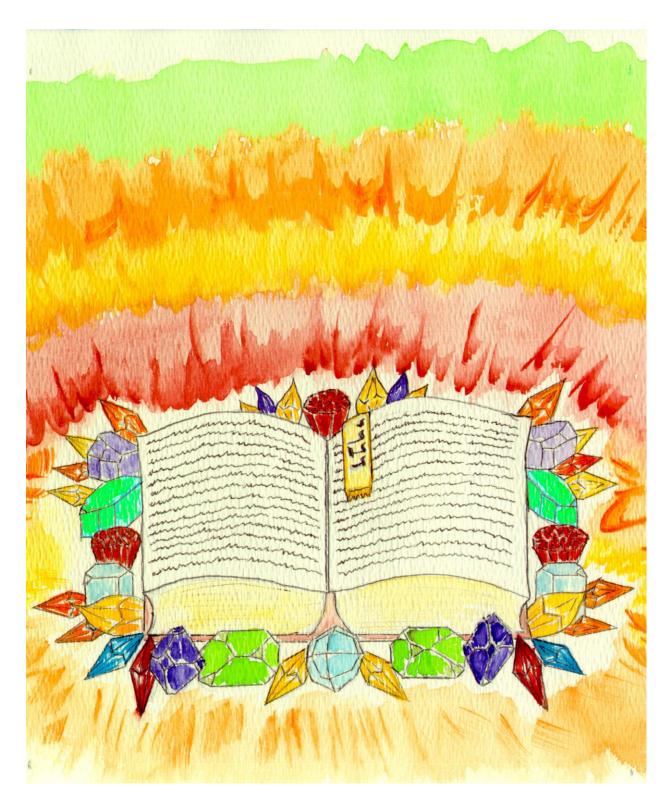
The evil spirits turned and ran back to their dark homes, where they felt safe.



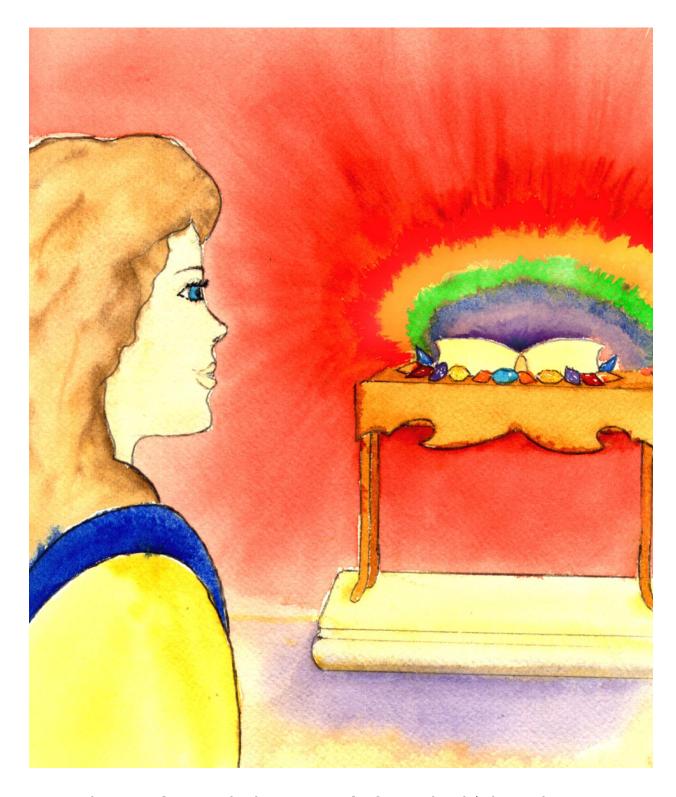
Then the angels were told to go to another room where they would see something even more amazing!



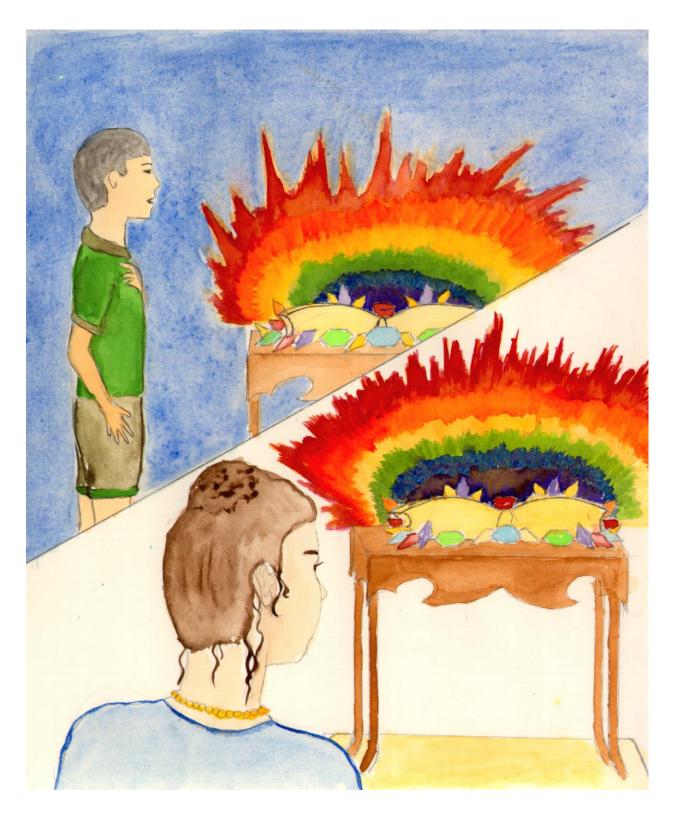
They found themselves in a beautiful room. The walls shone like gold. In the middle of the room was a table. It had rare gems in a heavenly pattern all around it.



The Word lay on the table. When it was opened, a bright light shone out of it and the gems made a rainbow around the Word.

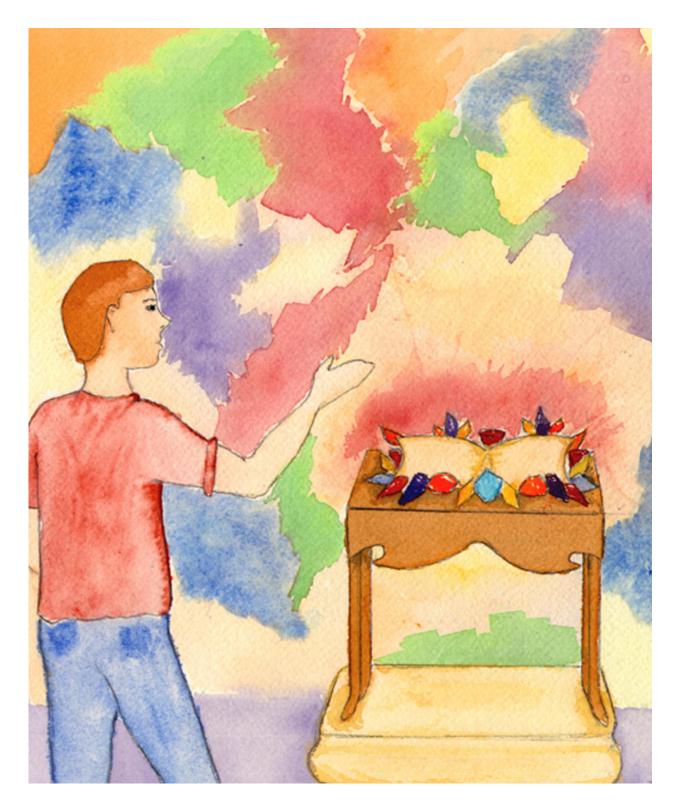


As the angels watched, an angel from the highest heaven came and looked at the Word. The light around the rainbow changed to a beautiful shimmering red.



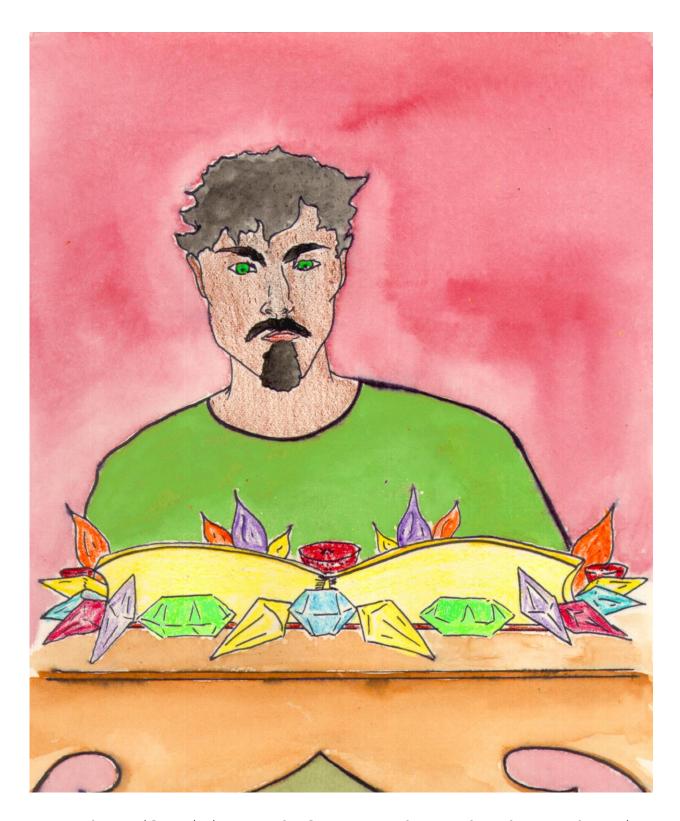
When an angel from the second highest heaven came to see the Word, the rainbow had a blue background.

Then an angel from the lowest heaven came and the rainbow had a white background.

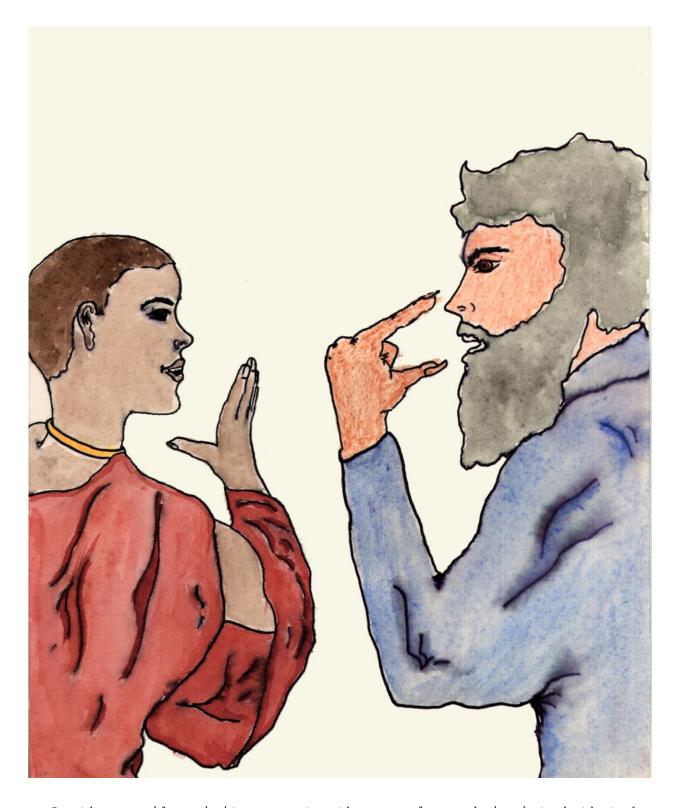


Then a good spirit from the world of spirits came to look, and the rainbow disappeared. The bright light around the Word became like marble with soft colors in it.

An evil spirit from the world of spirits came to see. All the bright light disappeared, because he was a man who twisted the truth and made it false.



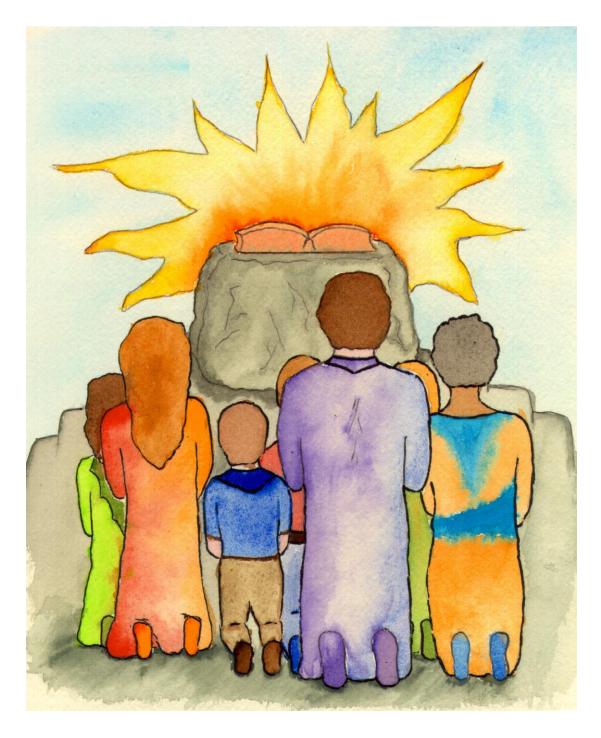
As the evil spirit moved closer to the Word and stared at it, everything around him changed to the color of blood! He was told to move away because it was too dangerous!



Another evil spirit came to the angels and insisted that he had always been a good person on earth. He wanted to go near the Word. When an angel warned him not to, he ignored the angel and moved nearer the Word. . . .



Fire and smoke burst from the Word! A loud explosion threw the evil spirit to the floor. He lay there for a while as if he were dead. He was a person who had taken truths from the Word and turned them into lies.



And so the evil spirits were shown that they really didn't know any truths because they didn't look to the Lord and follow Him. The sad thing is that they didn't believe this truth either and they ran back to their homes in hell.

The angels and good spirits know that we should love the Lord's beautiful truths and use them to do good. We can learn from them and do our very best to live our lives as the Lord tells us to in His Word.