



The Story of Sleeping Beauty

Gospel Parallel

Just as the King and Queen invited both peasants and royalty to celebrate the birth of their daughter, God invited both peasants and royalty to honor the birth of His Son, Jesus.

The peasants God invited: _____

The royalty God invited: _____

Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Ephesians 6:11–17 (NIV)

Gospel Parallel

To stand against the Evil One you must suit up in the

_____.

Maleficent is the personification of undiluted evil.

She represents the evil forces of greed, hatred, bigotry and selfishness.

She tries to destroy the vulnerable.

But . . .

The power of righteousness will not be defeated.

The power of righteousness is determined to bring a second wind.

King David said:

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Psalm 30:5 (NKJV)

Second Wind Stories

- **The story of the prophet Ezekiel and the Valley of Dry Bones**

This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD. Ezekiel 37:5–6 (NIV)

- **The story of Elijah in a whirlwind**

As Elijah and Elisha were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. 2 Kings 2:11 (NIV)

- **King David's prayer of repentance**

*God, create a pure heart in me.
Give me a new spirit that is faithful to you.* Psalm 51:10 (NIRV)

- **The second wind of Pentecost**

Before Pentecost, the followers of Jesus were in hiding. They were targets for imprisonment, enslavement and execution.

Life was hard, scary and dangerous. They were terrified and powerless against the mighty forces of Rome. John, in the book of Revelation, compared Caesar to an evil beast and his army to a dragon.

Everything changed on the day of Pentecost.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:1–4 (NIV)

The followers of Jesus got their second wind.

That same wind of the Holy Spirit is available to us as we suit up in the full armor of God.

Maleficent is still at work in our world!

*Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil,
roams around like a roaring lion,
looking for someone to devour.*
1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)

How can you stand against the power
of a roaring lion or an evil dragon?

Suit up in the full armor of God,
and receive the second wind of the Holy Spirit!