

Psalm 68:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.

Analysis

The 'chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels'—divine military force vastly outnumbers earthly armies. 'The Lord is among them, as in Sinai' connects God's ongoing presence with the theophany where He gave the law. God's angelic hosts serve His purposes, protecting His people and executing judgment. This celestial army guarantees victory, as Elisha's servant witnessed (2 Kings 6:17). Christ commands these legions (Matthew 26:53).

Historical Context

Angels repeatedly intervened in Israel's history—destroying Sodom, smiting Assyria's army (2 Kings 19:35), and protecting God's people. This vast angelic host demonstrates God's unlimited resources for accomplishing His will.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does awareness of God's angelic armies shape your confidence in spiritual warfare?

2. What does it mean that 'the Lord is among them'—how does God's presence make the difference?
3. How should knowing Christ commands heavenly hosts affect your prayers and trust in difficult circumstances?

Interlinear Text

אֱלֹהִים	רְבָתִים	אֲלָפִים	שְׁנָאִים	אֱלֹהִים
the chariots	of God	are twenty thousand	even thousands	of angels
H7393	H430	H7239	H505	H8136
בְּנֵי	סִינְיָה	בְּקָדְשָׁה		
is among them as in Sinai		in the holy		
H0	H5514	H6944		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 33:2 (Holy): And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

Daniel 7:10 (Parallel theme): A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Revelation 9:16 (Parallel theme): And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them.

Revelation 5:11 (Parallel theme): And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Matthew 26:53 (Parallel theme): Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?

Habakkuk 3:8 (References Lord): Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? was thine anger against the rivers? was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses and thy chariots of salvation?

