

Surrounded by an Invisible Army

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"When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,'
they drew back and fell to the ground."
- Jn 18:6

They thought they had Jesus surrounded.
Two hundred soldiers.
Torches.
Armor.
It looked easy-
a rabbi cornered in a garden.

You may not know this about Jesus-
He knew what Elisha once knew (2 Kgs 6:15-17):
angels and chariots of fire
surrounding Him.

One angel had already strengthened Him (Lk 22:43).
And He knew the Father could summon
twelve legions (Mt 26:53).
That's 60,000 angels.

If one angel could strike down
185,000 Assyrians in a night (2 Kgs 19:35),
what could an army of angels do?

The soldiers had walked into a trap-
one designed by God from the beginning.
The bruised heel (Gen 3:15).
The pierced hands (Ps 22:16).
The suffering Servant (Isa 53:5-7).
The arrest Jesus predicted
(Mk 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34).

And then He gave them a glimpse of His power.
Just enough to make them reconsider.
Enough to give them sight-
if they wanted to see.

And He did it with two words.

Two syllables.

"I AM." (Jn 18:5-6)

"I AM."

The One who is.

The One who always will be.

And the moment He said it, the line broke.

Torches jerked.

Armor clattered.

Boots slid.

Bodies hit the ground,

struck by an unseen force.

Here's the truth they never understood:

Jesus knocked them down.

Not to escape,

but to reveal Himself.

Not to destroy them,

but to warn them.

He let the smallest fraction of His power break out-
a mercy-blast,

a warning,

a revelation.

He could have spoken again

and erased them all.

Or summoned the angels who surrounded Him,

the chariots of fire that filled the forest and sky.

But He didn't.

He spoke just enough to show them

Who stood before them-

and then He surrendered.

Is there an invisible army of angels surrounding me now?

Jesus was never trapped-

He was surrounded by heaven.

And so am I.

Father, open my eyes to the unseen things

You've placed around me.

Let me remember that Jesus was never overpowered,

and neither am I when I walk with Him.
Give me faith to see Your presence,
when I feel overwhelmed.
I ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.