

††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* ††† **Humor for today** ††† *Jesus Mary Joseph* †††

Where do leprechauns play baseball? In a little league.  
What do you call an Irish spider? Paddy long legs.  
Why are leprechauns always getting in trouble? They have no elf control.  
How are friends like four-leaf clovers? They're hard to find and lucky to have.  
What's the best month of the year to host a parade? March.  
Did you hear about leprechaun that couldn't make a decision? He was stuck between a shamrock and a hard place.  
What do leprechauns use to clean the bathroom? Mr. Green.  
What's the best way to make gold soup? Use 14 karats.  
What do leprechauns put on their hamburgers? Paddys.  
What's long and green and only shows up once a year? The St. Patrick's Day parade.  
Why do Irish cows wear bells? Their horns don't work.  
Where can you be sure to find gold on St. Patrick's Day? In the dictionary.  
Why did the Irishman stop mining for gold? It didn't pan out.  
How can you tell if your Irish jokes are funny? Everyone's Dublin over in laughter.  
Did you hear about the leprechaun that opened his own store? Now he's a small business owner.  
Knock, knock! *Who's there?* Aisle. *Aisle who?* Aisle be wearing green on St. Paddy's so I don't get pinched.  
Knock, knock! *Who's there?* Lucky. *Lucky who?* Lucky you, it's St. Paddy's Day!  
Knock, knock! *Who's there?* Justin. *Justin who?* Justin time to celebrate St. Paddy's Day.

†††JM††† **This is Serious** †††JM†††

You can find sermons for the Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) at  
[https://jmjsite.com/5th%20Sundy%20in%20Lent\\_Passion%20Sunday.html](https://jmjsite.com/5th%20Sundy%20in%20Lent_Passion%20Sunday.html)

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Please use this link <https://jmjsite.com/stpatrick.pdf> to find prayers and information about Saint Patrick.

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### More Than Twelve Legions of Angels

How much strength do you think one angel possesses? Today, I would like us to consider the full impact of Jesus' words in Matthew 26:53, where He said, "*Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall give me presently more than twelve legions of angels?*"

Let us look at three questions:

What is a "legion"?

How many angels would there be in twelve legions?

What would be the combined strength of this number of angels?

Knowing the answers to these questions is important because they reveal the full might available to Jesus had He requested supernatural help in the Garden of Gethsemane. Take into account the power that was already demonstrated in the Garden when the multitude fell to the ground ("*As soon therefore as he had said to them: I am he; they went backward, and fell to the ground.*") Then add the potential assistance and impact of twelve legions of angels, and it becomes obvious that there was no human force on earth strong enough to take Jesus against His will. The only way He would be taken was if He allowed Himself to be taken! This is why He later told Pilate, "*Jesus answered: Thou shouldst not have any power against me, unless it were given thee from above. Therefore, he that hath delivered me to thee, hath the greater sin.*" (John 19:11).

Let us begin with our first question: What is a "legion"? The word "legion" is a military term that was taken from the Roman army. A legion denoted a group of at least 6,000 Roman soldiers, although the total number could be higher. This means that anytime we read about a legion of anything, we know it always refers to at least 6,000 of something.

An amazing example of this is found in Mark 5:9, where the Bible tells us that the demon-possessed man of the Gadarenes had a legion of demons. That means this man had an infestation of at least 6,000 demons residing inside him!

Let us now contemplate the second question: How many angels would there be in twelve legions? Since the word “legion” refers to at least 6,000, it means a legion of angels would be at least 6,000 angels. However, Jesus said the Father would give Him “more than” twelve legions of angels if He requested it. Because it would be pure speculation to try to figure out how many “more than” twelve legions would be, let’s just stick with the figure of twelve legions to see how many angels that entails.

One legion is 6,000 angels, so if you multiply that number by twelve, you’ll discover that twelve legions of angels would include a minimum of 72,000 angels. But Jesus said the Father would give Him more than twelve legions of angels; therefore, you can conclude that there were potentially many additional thousands of angels available to Jesus the night He was arrested!

Finally, let us examine our third question: What would be the combined strength of this number of angels? Angels are powerful! In fact, Isaiah 37:36 records that a single angel slew 185,000 men in one night in the camp of the Assyrians. So, if a single angel had that kind of power, how much-combined strength would there be in twelve legions of angels?

Since a single angel was able to kill 185,000 men in one night, it would mean the combined strength in a legion of 6,000 angels would be enough to easily destroy 1,110,000,000 men (that is, one billion, one hundred ten million men) — and that is just the combined power in one legion of angels!

Now, let us multiply this number 185,000 by twelve legions, or at least 72,000 angels, which was the number of angels Jesus said was available to Him on the night of His arrest. When we do, we find that there was enough combined strength at Jesus’ disposal to have annihilated at least 13,320,000,000 men (that is, thirteen billion, three hundred twenty million men) – which is about twice the number of people we are told are on the earth!

Jesus did not need Peter’s little sword that night. Had He chosen to do so, Jesus could have summoned 72,000 magnificent, mighty, dazzling, glorious, overwhelmingly powerful angels to the Garden to obliterate the Roman soldiers and the temple police who had come to arrest Him. In fact, the combined strength of twelve legions of angels could have wiped out the entire human race! But Jesus didn’t call on the supernatural help that was available to Him. Why? Because He knew it was time for Him to voluntarily lay down His life for the sins of the human race.

Learn a lesson from Jesus and from the Apostle Peter. Jesus did not need Peter’s undersized, insignificant sword to deal with His situation. What good would a single sword have been against all the troops assembled in the Garden that night anyway? Peter’s actions were a perfect example of how the flesh tries in vain to solve its own problems but cannot. Jesus had all the power that was required to conquer those troops.

The Gospel read on Passion Sunday ends by reminding us that “*Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.*” Why would Jesus hide Himself when He had so many legions of angels that could have helped Him then as always? The enemies of Jesus on that day could do nothing without the will of God permitting it. It is the same for us every day. Nothing happens in the entire world without the permissive will of God. Why do we worry? Why do we not trust God? “Why are you fearful, oh ye of little faith?”

As you face your own challenges in life, always keep in mind that Jesus has the power to fix any problem you will ever come across. Before you jump in and make things worse by taking matters into your own hands, remember the story of Peter! The next time you are tempted to “grab a sword and start swinging,” take a few minutes to remind yourself that Jesus can handle the problem without your intervention. Before you do anything else, pray and ask the Lord what you are supposed to do. Then, after you receive your answer and follow His instructions, just watch His supernatural power swing into action to solve the dilemma you are facing!

Have a grace-filled Passione. May Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph obtain many graces for you.

*Thank you for your prayers and sacrifices and for visiting <http://www.JMJsite.com>. Please share this information and tell others about this website.*