

ANGELO AND ANGELICA, ANGEL APPRENTICES

by Christine Ferguson



CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS

Copyright Notice

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that this Work is subject to a royalty. This Work is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America and all countries with which the United States has reciprocal copyright relations, whether through bilateral or multilateral treaties or otherwise, and including, but not limited to, all countries covered by the Pan-American Copyright Convention, the Universal Copyright Convention and the Berne Convention.

RIGHTS RESERVED: All rights to this Work are strictly reserved, including professional and amateur stage performance rights. Also reserved are: motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio broadcasting, television, video or sound recording, all forms of mechanical or electronic reproduction, such as CD-ROM, CD-I, DVD, information and storage retrieval systems and photocopying, and the rights of translation into non-English languages.

PERFORMANCE RIGHTS AND ROYALTY PAYMENTS: All amateur and stock performance rights to this Work are controlled exclusively by Christian Publishers. No amateur or stock production groups or individuals may perform this play without securing license and royalty arrangements in advance from Christian Publishers. Questions concerning other rights should be addressed to Christian Publishers. Royalty fees are subject to change without notice. Professional and stock fees will be set upon application in accordance with your producing circumstances. Any licensing requests and inquiries relating to amateur and stock (professional) performance rights should be addressed to Christian Publishers.

Royalty of the required amount must be paid, whether the play is presented for charity or profit and whether or not admission is charged.

AUTHOR CREDIT: All groups or individuals receiving permission to produce this play must give the author(s) credit in any and all advertisement and publicity relating to the production of this play. The author's billing must appear directly below the title on a separate line where no other written matter appears. The name of the author(s) must be at least 50% as large as the title of the play. No person or entity may receive larger or more prominent credit than that which is given to the author(s).

PUBLISHER CREDIT: Whenever this play is produced, all programs, advertisements, flyers or other printed material must include the following notice: ***Produced by special arrangement with Christian Publishers.***

COPYING: Any unauthorized copying of this Work or excerpts from this Work is strictly forbidden by law. No part of this Work may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, by any means now known or yet to be invented, including photocopying or scanning, without prior permission from Christian Publishers.

**CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS
EDUCATIONAL SERIES**

**ANGELO AND ANGELICA,
ANGEL APPRENTICES**

Parable: The Wheat and the Tares

By Christine Ferguson

ANGELO AND ANGELICA, ANGEL APPRENTICES

Parable: The Wheat and the Tares

By Christine Ferguson

SYNOPSIS: Two angels think all ungodly people should be zapped until the history professor alludes to Saul, the Crusades, and Martin Luther. Things aren't always as they seem—so judgment should wait until the harvest is ready.

BIBLE VERSE: Matthew 13:24-30

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(1 female, 1 male, 1 either)

PROFESSOR (m/f)..... A very wise angel. *(26 lines)*

ANGELO (m) An angel trainee. *(20 lines)*

ANGELICA (f) Friend of Angelo, also an angel
trainee. *(21 lines)*

DURATION: 10 minutes

SETTING: Heaven

TIME: Outside the constraints of time and space

SET

Spreading polyester fiberfill or white tulle over the floor suggests clouds. Place a table and chair at center stage.

COSTUMES

All three characters are dressed in white robes, perhaps with wings. The Professor should wear glasses and perhaps a gold stole or cords around his neck to designate his learned status.

*This perusal script is for reading purposes only.
No performance or photocopy rights are conveyed.*

PROPS

- ☐ Globe
- ☐ Scrolls or reference books
- ☐ Large Bible

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Parables are earthly stories intended to reveal a heavenly meaning. They are by nature stories that people could relate to and which would inspire questions and discussion, thus providing the opportunity for revelation of the truth. We have brought these parables into present time where the listener can relate and once again ask questions, which will reveal the true meaning.

SCRIPTURE: Taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION ®. Copyright© 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™. Used by permission of Zondervan.

PARABLE: ²⁴Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸“An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ²⁹“No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”
(*Matthew 13:24-30*)



AT START: *PROFESSOR is seated at the table, with the globe on top. He is poring over the scrolls or reference books.*

PROFESSOR: Ah, the wisdom of the Lord! So much to learn, so much to teach! (*Looks up and raises his arms in prayer.*) Lord God, give me wisdom and knowledge to teach these young angels you have put in my charge. Give me understanding of your Word, that I may answer their many questions! (*Shaking head.*) Their many, many questions! (*Goes back to studying.*)

ANGELO and ANGELICA enter and stand at the edge of the stage. ANGELO is boldly carrying a large Bible. ANGELICA shrinks back a bit shyly and tugs at ANGELO’S sleeve.

ANGELICA: (*Loud whisper.*) Behold, Angelo, the Professor is busy studying. Perhaps we should not disturb him!

ANGELO: No, Angelica, the Professor himself encourages us to come to him with our questions. I believe that what we have been discussing is of utmost importance!

ANGELICA: Yes, you’re right.

ANGELO proceeds toward the PROFESSOR with ANGELICA following.

ANGELO: Esteemed teacher! May we interrupt your studies for a moment?

PROFESSOR: *(Looking up from his books.)* Ah! My young apprentices, bold Angelo and kind Angelica!

ANGELO and ANGELICA bow.

PROFESSOR: How may I help you?

ANGELO: Sir, we have been studying the holy Scriptures.

PROFESSOR: Always a fine and worthy pursuit. From Scripture, as from the mouth of God, we angels receive our orders.

ANGELICA: Dear Professor, we love and respect the Word. But one of our Lord's parables distresses us greatly.

PROFESSOR: *(Leans back in chair and folds hands.)* Very well. Let us listen to the Word.

ANGELO: This is known as the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares, or Weeds. *(Opens Bible and reads Matthew 13:24-30.)*

PROFESSOR: Yes, verily, this is one of our Lord's descriptions of his kingdom. Wheat and tares grow together in the world until the time of the harvest. What about it troubles you?

ANGELICA: It is this. *(Points to a section in the Bible that ANGELO is holding.)* It is the Lord's explanation of the parable that he tells the disciples. *(Reads Matthew 13:37-43.)*

ANGELO: *(Passionately.)* We have ears and we hear our duty! As his angels, it is our responsibility to gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all lawbreakers! And we believe the time is now! *(Closes Bible loudly.)*

PROFESSOR: *(A bit surprised.)* Now? Do you mean this minute?

ANGELICA: *(Troubled.)* How can we delay? It appears that conditions on earth have deteriorated to such an appalling condition that we must hurry to rescue the Lord's people! Have you not observed this?

PROFESSOR: *(Places his hand on the globe.)* Yes, of course. I have been monitoring earthly conditions for quite some time. For ages, in fact.

ANGELO: Then you must certainly agree with us! How can we allow the Lord's people to be tormented by the ungodly any longer? We are the reapers, and we must gather the tares and throw them into the fire!

ANGELICA: And then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father, just as Scripture tells! We must act!

PROFESSOR: (*Slowly.*) What you are considering is truly commendable, but you forget... it must be the proper time.

ANGELO: Yes! And the time must be now! If we delay any longer, the ungodly will continue to defy the Most High. They must meet their doom!

ANGELICA: We must rescue God's people and bring them home. The longer we delay, the more they will suffer. How could this not be the proper time to end suffering?

PROFESSOR: (*Sighs.*) Time, time, time. You are obsessed with time. Let me show you something. (*Begins spinning the globe.*) This globe shows all that happens on earth, for all time. Let us go back in time to... here. (*Stops the globe and points to a spot in the Mideast.*) Here we have Israel, in the time shortly after the Lord's resurrection. What do you see?

ANGELO and ANGELICA peer at the globe.

ANGELICA: I see many believers! I see the church growing. How wonderful!

ANGELO: Yes, but I also see... this! (*Points to the spot on the globe.*) Persecution! Suffering! Even death! And there is one man, one ungodly man, who seems to be the ringleader!

PROFESSOR: Yes, yes, you are quite correct. Would you like to tear him out from the earth?

ANGELO: Oh, yes I would!

ANGELICA: Many lives would be saved!

PROFESSOR: (*Shaking his head.*) Then you would have gotten rid of Saul, who would later be known as Paul the apostle. He brought many into the kingdom and wrote much of the New Testament. Would you care to rethink this?

ANGELO: (*Taken aback.*) Oh! Well, perhaps I was too hasty.

ANGELICA: It would not be the right time.

PROFESSOR: Quite. Now let us move on to... here. (*Spins the globe and stops it, pointing to Europe.*) This time is known for the Crusades. Look and see.

ANGELO and ANGELICA look.

ANGELICA: It appears to be something very good! See, the Crusaders are protecting the people traveling to the Holy Land.

ANGELO: But it's not all good. See? There is bloodshed. Fighting. I don't understand. It's all very confusing.

PROFESSOR: Would you like to choose which are the wheat and which are the tares? Which ones would you tear out from the earth?

ANGELO: I... don't know. It's so hard to tell.

ANGELICA: Perhaps the time is not yet right.

PROFESSOR: You speak the truth. We will now proceed to... the sixteenth century. (*Spins the globe and stops again in Europe.*) Observe the church at this time.

ANGELICA: I do not like what I see! Many are being deceived. The clergy have grown so corrupt!

ANGELO: Professor, does this not anger you? Those who should be leaders are themselves deceivers!

PROFESSOR: Consider this monastery. (*Points to a spot.*) What would you do with those monks?

ANGELO: I would tear out that monastery and all in it! Into the fire with them!

PROFESSOR: Then you would have gotten rid of a young monk who would someday reform things. His name is Martin Luther.

ANGELICA: (*Still staring at the globe.*) But I see that as a result of these reforms, there is more fighting, more bloodshed, more suffering! When will it all end? How can this go on?

PROFESSOR: But it does go on. (*Spins the globe again.*) Now we arrive at the present day. What do you see?

ANGELO: (*Passionately.*) Just as we told you! The earth is full of violence and suffering because of the enemies of God. They are the bad seed sown by Satan in the field of the earth, and they must be destroyed! (*Points upward in righteous anger.*) This must go on no longer!

ANGELICA: (*Tugs at ANGELO'S sleeve.*) No, Angelo, wait! Remember what we saw through all the ages? Some that seemed to be tares were actually wheat! At one moment in time, we cannot tell what will happen in the future to those that seem to be among the ungodly. We wouldn't want to tear up the wheat along with the tares!

PROFESSOR: (*Stands up.*) Exactly! We must wait until the right time—at the direction of God alone, who knows all things—at the time of the end, when every one of his children have been made members of his kingdom. Only then will it be time for his angels to gather up the tares and throw them in the fire.

ANGELO: How can this be? Would it not be better for the end to come sooner rather than later? Would it not be better to put a swift end to the suffering of God's children?

PROFESSOR: (*Puts his hand on ANGELO'S shoulder.*) Would it not be better for all of God's children to be brought in while there is still time?

ANGELO: (*Shakes his head.*) This is a very hard saying. Does God have no mercy toward the suffering of his people?

ANGELICA: (*Slowly and thoughtfully.*) I think I understand. We know that God is merciful. He is surely grieved by the suffering of his people. But there is evil in the world, and this must be, until the last lost soul is found and brought in.

PROFESSOR: Angelica is right. Good and evil, wheat and tares, grow together in the world until the end. Only God knows when that will be. But ask any of his people who are now in his heavenly kingdom here with us. Ask them if they have suffered, and ask them if it was worth it.

ANGELICA: I think that they would be willing to bear up under any momentary suffering if they knew they would spend eternity here with us. Do you not agree, Angelo?

ANGELO: (*Sighs.*) When you put it that way, I must agree.

ANGELICA: We were wrong to try to hasten judgment when the harvest was not yet ready. Dear professor, are you very disappointed in us?

PROFESSOR: *(Stands between ANGELO and ANGELICA and puts his arms around their shoulders.)* Disappointed? How could I be disappointed when you, Angelo, desire justice, and you, Angelica, desire mercy? Mercy and justice are attributes of God himself. He is merciful in keeping the door to salvation open until the last possible moment, and in his justice, he will not leave the guilty unpunished.

PROFESSOR drops his arms and holds hands with ANGELO and ANGELICA. They are facing the audience.

PROFESSOR: Let us pray.

ANGELO and ANGELICA bow their heads.

PROFESSOR: Lord of all, the world is your field. We are your servants, who humbly and patiently await your orders to bring in the harvest.

ANGELICA: We wait until the last of your children enter your kingdom, most merciful Lord.

ANGELO: We eagerly await for your justice to be done, when we winnow out the tares destined for destruction.

PROFESSOR: We wait for your kingdom to come, when we can truly say,

PROFESSOR, ANGELO, and ANGELICA: *(In unison, emphatically.)*
On earth as it is in heaven *(Matthew 6:10).*

ANGELO: Amen! *(Releases PROFESSOR'S hand and exits the stage.)*

ANGELICA: Amen! *(Releases PROFESSOR'S hand and exits the stage.)*

PROFESSOR: Amen and amen! *(Bows and exits the stage.)*

THE END



CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:
ANGELO AND ANGELA, ANGEL APPRENTICES
by Christine Ferguson.

For performance rights and/or a complete copy of the script,
please contact us at:

CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS LLC
P.O. Box 248 - Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406
Toll Free: 844-841-6387 - Fax 319-368-8011
customerservice@christianpub.com