

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST – – “SATAN’S WAR” - 12:7-17

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by Pastor Chuck Smith, Vernon McGee, David Hocking, Warren Wiersbe and others.

THE THIRD WOE — MIDDLE OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION – THE SEVENTH TRUMPET BLOWS DURING THE LAST 3.5 YEARS!

vs. 7-9 THE STRUGGLE IN HEAVEN

Rev 12:7 And war broke out in heaven:

Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

Rev 12:8 but they did not prevail,

nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

Rev 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out,

that serpent of old,

called the Devil (Gr. - slanderer)

and Satan (Heb. - adversary), who deceives the whole world;

he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

vs. 7-9 THE STRUGGLE IN HEAVEN

v 7. “And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,” - It describes a fulfillment of prophecy - Cf. Daniel 10:13, 20-21; 12:1-3; Jude 9 – Michael the archangel!

“Michael” (“who is like God”) - “another mighty angel” of Revelation 10 - cf. 1 Thess. 4:16

Note: Jewish tradition says there are seven archangels!

Cf. John 12:31; Romans 16:20; Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8; 4:4 Notice two things:

v. 8 “they did not prevail” -- It describes the failure of Satanic forces to overcome the purposes and plans of God - They lost! –

“nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out - They were cast out!”

v. 9 “that serpent of old” - Three things learned about Satan: He was directly involved in the temptation of Adam and Eve

“who deceives the whole world” - He is a slanderer and an adversary - (“devil” - Greek for “slanderer” and “Satan” - Hebrew for “adversary”) - cf. Rev. 20:10 – Pharaoh, Haman, Herod, Hitler Stalin

“he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” - It describes the fall of Satan and his angels – cf. Lk 10:18

“SATAN’S WAR” - Revelation 12:7-17 Satan is behind all the wars and difficulties at national levels.

THE STRUGGLE IN HEAVEN – VS. 7-9

THE SECRET OF VICTORY OVER THE DEVIL – VS. 10-12

THE SUFFERING OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE – VS. 13-17

Joh 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

Rom 16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Heb 2:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

1Jn 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST – – “SATAN’S WAR” - 12:7-17

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

THE SECRET OF VICTORY OVER THE DEVIL – vs. 10-12

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

Rev 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Rev 12:12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!

*Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea!
For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath,*

because he knows that he has a short time."

THE SECRET OF VICTORY OVER THE DEVIL - 10-12

v. 10 "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren - It is based on the COMING of the Messianic kingdom Cf. Zech. 3:2; Rev.11:15; 20:1-3;

v. 11 "they (followers of Christ) overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. " - It is based on the cleansing of the blood of Jesus Christ - Cf. Col. 2:13-15; 1 John 1:5-2:2 - "advocate" God's people in every age must expect the world's opposition, but the church can always defeat the enemy by being faithful to Jesus Christ!

v. 12 "having great wrath" - The secret of victory over the devil is based on God's control of Satan and his wrath

"because he knows that he has a short time." - emotional outburst! This is the last wave of anti-Semitism that will roll over the world, and it is the worst, because Satan is cast down to the earth and knows that his time is short. He hates Israel because Christ came from this nation according to the flesh. This is the Time of Jacob's Trouble.

A dual war is now going on: God is warring against the unbelieving world, and Satan (through the Beast) is making war on the saints (Rev 13:7-8). What a time of turmoil and trouble it will be! No wonder Jesus said, "Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved" (Mat 24:22). For the "elect's sake" (the believing Jews), the days are limited.

Questions:

1. Where is Satan today? Who are some of the world leaders that Satan has been behind?
2. Who does the Bible refer to as the archangel? Who is the angelic being behind all the persecution of the nations toward Israel described in Revelation? Who is the chief angelic being defending Israel?
3. What is the origin of sin, of depravity?
4. Does the Bible teach that terrible things are yet to happen to Israel?
5. Is the coming persecution connected with the Messiah?
6. Who will protect Israel during the coming persecution?
7. What two purposes of Satan are revealed in vs. 15 & 17 during the last 3/5 years of the Great Tribulation?
8. Can you think of another scripture that speaks of God bearing Israel on "eagles' wings"?
9. Does today's study say that there will be Jews professing Jesus Christ as Savior during the Tribulation?
10. From the beginning of the Tribulation, how long will evil reign on the earth?

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST – – “SATAN’S WAR” - 12:7-17

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

THE SUFFERING OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

– vs. 13-17

Rev 12:13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

Rev 12:14 But the woman was given two wings

of a great eagle, that she might fly into

the wilderness to her place,

where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Rev 12:15 So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth

like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.

Rev 12:16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth

and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.

Rev 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

vs. 13-17 THE SUFFERING OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

v. 13 “he persecuted the woman (nation of Israel) who gave birth to the male Child.”- cf. Mt. 24:15-22 - The persecution seems connected to the Messiah - All anti-Semitism is Satan inspired and will finally culminate in Satan's making a supreme effort to destroy the nation of Israel. From the brickyards of Pharaoh's Egypt, Haman's gallows, Herod's cruel edict, through Hitler's purge, and to the world of the Great Tribulation, Satan has led the attack against these people because of the man child—Jesus Christ.

v. 14 “a great eagle” - The protection of God will be given to the Jewish people - 14-16 The Eagle of God's protection – Cf. Exodus 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:11-12

“the wilderness” - Daniel 11:41

“where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time (3.5 years), from the presence of the serpent.” - The Extent of God's protection cf. Daniel 7:25; 12:7 - God cares for those for whom He wants to use to accomplish His purposes on earth.

v. 15 “like a flood” - Jeremiah 46:7-10; 47:2-4

v 16 “swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.” - The example of God's protection - Cf. Exodus 15:1-13; Numbers 16:31-34; Ps. 124:1-5

Vs. 15, 17 “that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood.....he went to make war with the rest of her offspring” - The purposes of Satan are clearly revealed - Cf. Rev. 1:9; 6:9; 14:12 These “keep the commandments of God,” which seems to place them back under the Law. This precludes the possibility of the witnesses being the church.

God has rescued His people many times!

v 11. Victory for the accused saints comes through three avenues which are mentioned to us in this section:

1. “The blood of the Lamb.” There is wonder-working power in the blood of the Lamb.
2. “The word of their testimony” reveals that they were true martyrs. Those who are Christ's cannot deny Him. “But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven” (Mat_10:33). There is something that is strengthening in giving a testimony. I know of a man in business who is a big, double-fisted fellow. He is an executive in a very hard-hitting concern, and there are a lot of blaspheming folk around him. When he hears someone blaspheming, in a very quiet manner, he will say to that person, “I'd like to tell you what Jesus Christ means to me.” The Lord Jesus says, “If you deny Me before men, I'll deny you before My Father in heaven” (see Mat_10:33). These are the true martyrs. The Greek word *martus* means “witness.” These are the ones who witness for Him.
3. “They did not love their lives to the death.” This is an exalted plane to come to, where you and I make the Lord Jesus the first love in our life and put love of self down in second, third, fourth, or some other place. Surely we ought to have respect for ourselves, and there ought to be a dignity about us, but let's put Him first. When we put Him first, we will not have any problem living for Him down here. The great problem today is not the set of rules you may be living by; it is what is behind the rules. Here is what you need behind them: the blood of the Lamb, the word of your testimony, and love for Him above everything else.

Satan hates the believer! He is doing everything he can to destroy us!

James 4:7-8; 1 Peter 5:8-9; 1 John 3:24-4:4

Where (what position in your life) is your love of self?