

## A LOOK AT WARFARE IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM

DAY ONE

The seventh trumpet is about to sound. What will happen next? The scene shifts from earth back to heaven where victory is so certain that celebration begins in heaven before earth knows the reality of it all. In the mind and heart of God, all battles are over, and the chorus of heavenly voices praise and worship the King of

Kings! Read about it in today's lesson.

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:**

Revelation 11:15-19 Then the seventh angel sounded: and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" 16 And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. 18 The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear Your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth." 19 Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

**Matthew 27:50-51** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. **51** Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

#### **Word Meanings:**

- ark of the covenant: the gold box which held the Ten Commandments and was covered by the Mercy Seat
- 2. veil: the separation between man and God

1.	What did John hear after the sounding of the seventh trumpet?
2.	What did the voices proclaim?
3.	What did the twenty-four elders do?
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4.	At this time, who will be judged?
5.	Who will be rewarded?
6.	What will happen to those who destroy the earth?
7.	What happened to the temple in heaven?
8.	What was revealed?
9.	What was earth's response to this great event in the spiritual realm?
0.	What other great event in the New Testament was marked by similar happenings?

**DAY TWO** 

From the time God gave the rainbow after the flood for a sign of His promise not to flood the world again, signs were given by God 1) to prove the value or truth of something, 2) to point to a particular person or moment in history so that it would not be forgotten, or 3) to picture an important Bible truth. In today's lesson you will

learn about two important signs that will appear during the end times.

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:**

Revelation 12:1-6 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. 2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth. 3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. 4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. 5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

#### **Word Meaning:**

diadem: the crown worn by a king to show absolute authority

1.	Where did a great sign appear?
2.	What was this sign?
3.	How is the woman dressed?
4.	Why did the woman cry out?
5.	What second sign appears?
6.	How is this second sign described?
7.	What did the dragon's tail do?
8.	What did the dragon intend to do?
9.	What are we told about the Child?
10.	What happened to the Child?
11.	Where did the woman flee?
Тн	INK ABOUT IT:
	Can you remember other signs that God has given us in other parts of the Bible? Signs are given
	by God to prove the truth of something, to point to something so that it would not be
	overlooked or forgotten, or to picture an important Bible truth. Which of these three types of
	signs do you think is found in today's lesson?



What do the two signs represent? We know that from Genesis until now Satan has tried to stop God's plan of bringing forth a Savior for the world. We also know that God promised that the Savior would come from the nation of Israel. Find out more about this age-old struggle in today's lesson.

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:**

Genesis 37:5-11 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; and they hated him even more. 6 So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed: 7 There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf." 8 And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words. 9 Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." 10 So he told it to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?" 11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Genesis 3:14,15 So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

**Matthew 2:16** Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

**Revelation 12:9** So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

### **TODAY'S MEMORY VERSES:**

Psalm 17:8 Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings,

#### **Word Meanings:**

1. **enmity:** strife, discord, a battle

2. deceived: tricked or misled

#### **Questions:**

۱.	In Joseph's dream what did the sun and moon and stars represent?

2. Can you remember the nation that came from this family?\_\_\_\_\_

3.	What important person came from this nation to be the Savior of the world?
4.	What phrase in Genesis 3: 15 refers to Jesus?
5.	Who do you think the serpent represents?
6.	What will the Seed of woman do to the serpent?
7.	What will the seed of the serpent do to the Seed of woman?
8.	Which, then, will be stronger?
9.	What did Herod do to pursue the Christ child after His birth?
	According to Revelation 12:9, who is the great dragon?
11.	Who was cast out with him?
Гн	INK ABOUT IT:
	Now go back and look at Revelation 12: 1-6. Tell what the woman, the child, the dragon, and the stars each represent. What encouragement is offered to Israel at the end of this passage?

**DAY FOUR** 

For reasons known only to God, Satan has had access to heaven, even since he fell from his high position before the foundation of this world. In today's lesson, John records another important vision for us, a vision of angelic warfare. Daniel, too, was shown the reality of heavenly battle. In the New Testament, Paul prepared us for the

reality of spiritual warfare. Learn more about it in today's lesson.

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:**

Revelation 12:7-12 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, 8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. 9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 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. 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. 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."

**Daniel 10:13, 21** But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. **21** But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.)

**Daniel 12:1** At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.

**Jude 9** Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

Job 1:6-12 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. 7 And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 8 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?" 9 So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? 10 Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11 But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" 12 And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

#### **Word Meanings:**

- 1. **cast:** thrown
- 2. testimony: spoken word
- 3. **contending:** battling

- 4. disputed: argued
- 5 **reviling:** calling bad names

1.	Who battled in the war of heaven?
2.	What was the outcome of the heavenly battle between Michael and the dragon?
3.	Where was the dragon thrown at this point?

4.	By what three things can a believer overcome the enemy, Satan, who accuses believers
	day and night before God? (Revelation 12:11)
5.	Although heaven rejoiced, why were the inhabitants of earth cautioned?
6.	From Daniel and Jude what do we know about Michael's position?
7.	What are Michael's special duties? (Daniel 12:1)
8.	What mysterious battle involving Michael does Jude tell about?
9.	From Job and from Revelation what do we learn about the devil?

DAY FIVE

In any battle, you must know your enemy if you are to overcome him. Today's lesson examines our spiritual enemy. Just who is Satan? Where did he come from? What are his other names? What is his nature? What is he trying to do? Find out in today's lesson.

#### **TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING:**

**Isaiah 14:12-17** "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! **13** For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; **14** I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' **15** Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit. **16** Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, **17** who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?'"

**Ezekiel 28:12b-19** *[God is speaking here about Satan]* Thus says the Lord GOD: "You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. **13** You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire,

turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. 14 You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. 15 You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. 16 By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. 17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you. 18 You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. 19 All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror, and shall be no more forever."

Revelation 12:13-17 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. 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. 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. 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. 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.

#### **Word Meanings:**

- 1. **exalt:** lift up
- 2. **Sheol:** the place of the dead; hell
- 3. lamentation: a sad song
- persecuted: harass in such a way as to injure or afflict
- 5. **nourished:** fed
- 6. enraged: filled with anger
- 7. **offspring:** children

۱.	What name does Isaiah use for Satan?
2.	What attitude of Satan's heart caused his fall from heaven?
3.	Because Satan aspired to be like the Most High where was he brought? (Isaiah 14:15)
1.	What phrases describe Satan's final destruction and what will people finally say about him?

5.	From Ezekiel's description, list several words or phrases that describe Satan at his creation
6.	Of what sin was Satan guilty? (Ezekiel 28:16)
7.	What was Satan's reaction to being thrown from heaven, according to Revelation?
8.	How was the woman protected?
9.	How did the serpent try to kill the woman?
10.	Because the earth helped the woman what did the dragon decide to do?

# **REVIEW**

1.	Summarize what you have learned about warfare in the spiritual realm (heaven) and how it affects
	people on earth.
2.	Make a list of some of the names used in Scripture for Satan. What do these names tell us about his
	character?

3. Make a timeline of the events of Revelation 11:15 through Revelation 12.