

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

CHAPTER 12:7-17

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Welcome back to our study of the Book of Revelation. We recommend that you begin by reading Revelation Chapter 12:7-17. (*Note: All Scriptures are KJV unless otherwise noted.*)

THE EXPULSION OF SATAN & THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL

Let's reread and direct our attention to a captivating passage that the Book of Revelation presents.

7 "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. 13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child."

17 "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Revelation 12:7-13, 17

The expulsion of Satan and his angels from Heaven is a major event. This event marks the second half of the Tribulation, also known as the Great Tribulation.

There are three reasons why this marks the beginning of the Great Tribulation:

1. Satan is being expelled from access he had in Heaven for millennia.
2. The 2nd half of the Tribulation is known as the time of Jacob's (Israel's) Trouble. This juncture is the beginning of a time that Earth has never seen. If it is not cut short, no flesh will survive.
3. The dragon, Satan, and his angels make war with a remnant of Israel. Some scholars say this remnant is only one-third of Israel.

REMNANT

17 "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Revelation 12:17

This remnant is not from those who were saved because of the ministry of the 144,000. These are already in Heaven and are known as the Tribulation saints. This remnant is what is left of Israel (the Jews). They have now repented and received Christ. Notice that this group keeps God's commands and has the testimony of Jesus Christ. This remnant of Israel is saved.

17 "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Revelation 12:17

The word "remnant" is not a person or a symbol. It is not being used here for the Church or the Gentiles. It is the remaining Jews who will be saved after the ministry of the 144,000. It is a term that is used in Scripture when Israel was invaded, especially Judea and Jerusalem.

I want to show you a select few Scriptures where the word "remnant" is used.

9 "Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah."

Isaiah 1:9

20 "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and such as are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more again stay upon him that smote them; but shall stay upon the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, in truth."

Isaiah 10:20

16 "And there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt."

Isaiah 11:16

32 "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call."

Joel 2:32

10 "For before these days there was no hire for man, nor any hire for beast; neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in because of the affliction: for I set all men every one against his neighbour. 11 But now I will not be unto the residue of this people as in the former days, saith the Lord of hosts. 12 For the seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the

heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things."

Zechariah 8:10-12

THE WAR IN HEAVEN

Let's look at what kind of war this is going to be. It is in Heaven. What will it look like?

*7 "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, **8** And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. **9** And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."*

Revelation 12:7-9

The heavens above us are populated with multitudes of spirit beings of different orders and varieties. The ones we know of in Scripture are:

Seraphim:

Isaiah 6:1-3

Cherubim:

Ezekiel 10:1-22

Living Creatures:

Revelation 4:6-8

Spirit Horses and Chariot Drivers:

II Kings 2:11-12; II Kings 6:15-17, & Revelation 19:11-14

Angels:

Hebrews 1-2

Archangels:

Ezekiel 28:11-17; Jude 9

Principalities, Powers, Rulers of Darkness, and Spiritual Wickedness in High Places:

Ephesians 6:12

Thrones and Dominions:

Colossians 1:16

Demons and Unclean Spirits:

Matthew 12:43; Luke 4:41

Fallen Angels and Spirits in Prison:

II Peter 2:4; Jude 6-7

There are many spirit beings mentioned in Scripture, and they are apportioned into three categories:

1. Those who are loyal and serve God
2. Those who have allegiance to Satan and serve him
3. Those who are bound in Tartarus (fallen angles)

4 "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;"

II Peter 2:4

6 "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

Jude 6-7

The Origin of the War

The war in Heaven is the last desperate struggle between spirit beings in the heavens. This will be the culmination of the age-long war in the heavens between God and Satan. It first began when Satan tried to exalt his throne and kingdom above God. It was an attempt to dethrone God from His universal kingdom.

12 "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations. 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High."

Isaiah 14:12-14

Satan was cast out of Heaven and dethroned. Jesus said He saw it.

18 "And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."

Luke 10:18

Although cast out, he still has mysterious access to the heavens and over Earth, which he usurped from Adam. He still has access to Heaven to accuse the saints before God both day and night.

6 "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou

considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?"

Job 1:6-8

1 "Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord."

Job 2:1

Facts Concerning the War in Heaven

The combatants are Michael, the archangel, who is in command of God's angels in Heaven. They are arrayed against Lucifer, who is in command of one-third of the angels who fell with him when he sinned and was dethroned.

Some Things to Consider

1. Jacob wrestled with an angel. The angel dislocated Jacob's hip.
2. Angels took hold of Lot and his family and led them out of Sodom.
3. An angel drew his sword and met Joshua in the plains of Jericho.
4. One angel slayed 185,000 Assyrians in one night.
5. Mighty angels wrestled. Michael came to Gabriel's aid when the Prince of Persia delayed an answer to Daniel's prayer.

12 "Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. 13 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. 14 Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."

Daniel 10:12-14 NKJV

6. Angels regularly protect us from harm.
7. Angels can eat food as ordinary men.
8. Angels will fight with Christ against physical armies during the Battle of Armageddon.
9. Angel's bodies are not human. They are made of some sort of material and substance that can shape-shift.
10. An angel will loose four others now bound at the Euphrates River.
11. There are fallen angels bound in Tartarus in chains.

12. In the war in Heaven in Revelation 12, Satan and his angels are overpowered and cast down to the earth.

13. One angel will take Satan, put a chain on him, and bind him in the pit for 1,000 years.

14. One day, Satan, fallen angels, and demons will all be physically disabled, bound, and confined to the Lake of Fire forever. They will not be able to escape.

In Revelation 12, God is scrubbing the heavens and cleaning out any vestiges where Satan has been. Once the devil and evil spirits are evicted from the heavens:

- There is no more access given to them to God in the Third Heaven.
- Satan cannot leave Earth and go back to Heaven.
- He is incarcerated on Earth.
- He is prohibited from leaving this planet.
- He will eventually be bound in the pit and later cast into the Lake of Fire.

PREVAILED NOT

8 “And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.”

Revelation 12:8

The word “prevailed” means there was a definite struggle and resistance. It reveals an actual combat.

The Result

Following the struggle, Satan and his fallen angels will be thrust down to Earth, never to have access to the heavens again. A voice from Heaven will make a proclamation.

10 “And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, ‘Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.’”

Revelation 12:10

Look back at **Revelation 11:15**:

15 “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.”

Look at what the voice proclaims in the heavens:

12 "Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them."

Revelation 12:12

The devil is no longer in the heavens; he has been cast out. But now, the voice will proclaim something different to the inhabitants of Earth.

12 "...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."

Revelation 12:12

Woe! The devil is cast down to Earth! He has great wrath! Why is his wrath so great? Because he knows his time is short! Satan will concentrate on the woman, the remnant of Israel, during the last three and a half years of the Tribulation. His wrath will be immense because his time is running out.

God will have to intervene and protect the remnant of Israel. He will stir up enemies of the Antichrist in the east and north of the revised Roman Empire that will oppose the Antichrist. This deflects Satan from totally destroying Israel.

44 "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many."

Daniel 11:44

God distracts the Antichrist and dragon with enemies of the Antichrist's rule, thereby preserving the remnant.

THE ANTICHRIST

In our next session, I will begin with Revelation Chapter 13. It will introduce the devil incarnate, the Antichrist. We will also look at the False Prophet. The Antichrist is the beast out of the sea found in Revelation 13:1-10. The False Prophet is the beast out of the earth found in Revelation 13:11-18.

I want to bring a mystery to our attention. Every time I have taught on the Book of Revelation, I always mention this because I feel it is important. It is just something I want to take a look at.

A CLOSER LOOK AT JUDAS

Throughout the years, there have been many who have tried to determine who the Antichrist might be. Throughout Scripture, there have been many types and shadows, including the following:

- Nimrod, the rebel who built the tower of Babel in Genesis and a city builder, was in the running.
- Pharaoh, as a persecutor of Israel, was a type of antichrist.
- Wicked Haman, the hater of the Jews, is another type of the coming superhuman dictator.

I want to bring to our attention one Scripture for several obvious reasons. Let's look at it and see a peculiarity that Jesus Himself exposed.

12 "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled."

John 17:12

Jesus called Judas the "son of perdition." Look at what Paul says in Second Thessalonians.

3 "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;"

II Thessalonians 2:3

Notice that these are the only two passages in Scripture where the name "son of perdition" is used. First, it is used to describe Judas Iscariot. Second, it is applied to the man of sin, the Antichrist. I have always had the term, "son of perdition," rumbling around in the back of my mind, wondering what it could mean.

I also want to point something else out to you for consideration. The Scripture says something about Judas that it has not said about another man.

3 "Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve."

Luke 22:3

There are many instances where Scripture speaks of demons entering and taking their abode in men and women, but this passage says Satan, the prince and king over demons, personally entered Judas, taking up his abode in this disciple of Jesus Christ. The argument is made a tad more conclusive by Jesus's statement in the Gospel of John. Jesus called Judas a devil (a diabolos)!

70 "Jesus answered them, have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?"

John 6:70

Diabolos is a term exclusive for the devil, Satan. He does not say Judas is a demon. He purposefully said Judas is a devil.

To add to this mystery, we can reason further by looking at this passage in Acts concerning Judas.

25 *“That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.”*

Acts 1:25

The elders met and had to appoint someone to fill the place of Judas. Look what Peter said in **Acts 1:15-25**:

15 *“And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) **16** Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. **17** For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. **18** Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. **19** And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. **20** For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. **21** Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, **22** Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. **23** And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. **24** And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, **25** That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.”*

Go to His Own Place

The words “go to his own place” seem to be another piece of this mystery. Judas died and went to his own place. Jesus died and rose again. Satan is an imitator of the true Christ. Since Christ died and rose again, the Antichrist will attempt to simulate Christ in every detail. Satan most assuredly will try to produce an Antichrist who has died and comes back to life. We do know that the Antichrist will suffer a deadly wound, and the false prophet will bring him back to life.

12 *“And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.”*

Revelation 13:12

Comparisons Between Judas and the Antichrist

Let's look at some comparisons between Judas and the Antichrist:

1. Judas served as a disciple of Jesus for three and a half years; then Satan entered into him.

Ironically, the second half of the Tribulation is three and a half years. It is after Satan is cast down to the Earth, and the Antichrist sets himself up in the Temple in Jerusalem (in the middle of Daniel's 70th Week).

2. Judas, as a disciple, performed miracles, signs, and wonders.

The Antichrist and false prophet will do the same when they come.

3. Judas was aligned with the religious leaders of his day. He worked together with them to have Jesus arrested.

Notice the Antichrist works hand-in-hand with the false prophet to oppose Christ.

Judas is a mysterious figure for me. First, the title "son of perdition" is used to identify both him and the Antichrist. Second, Jesus told us the devil entered Judas.