

Think about a football game where your team is down late in the fourth quarter

That is a little like **Revelation 12:7–11**- The **central** message is **not that satan is powerful**

The **central** message is that satan is defeated, Christ is victorious, and believers overcome

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places
Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

This passage is **not intended to produce fear**. It is meant to **produce confidence** because Jesus Christ has already secured

Verses 1–6 introduced the **woman** (Israel), the male **Child** (Jesus Christ), and the **dragon** (satan)

Verses 7–11 now shift our attention from earth to heaven

John sees **war in heaven** and the permanent removal of satan

And **war** broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought
Revelation 12:7 NKJV

The Bible does **not describe a symbolic disagreement**; it describes war

The Bible doesn't portray angels as bleeding out on a heavenly battlefield

Spiritual warfare appears fundamentally to be a conflict of authority , position and dominion

Throughout Scripture, spiritual beings can be: resisted, rebuked, cast out, cast down, bound, imprisoned, restrained, stripped of position, sentenced, ultimately tormented

That's why **Revelation 12:8** is such a powerful reminder for us; **And they did not prevail...**
Revelation 12:8 NKJV

Who Is Michael? - Michael is one of the few angels specifically named in Scripture

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, about the body of Moses, said **The Lord rebuke you!** Jude 9 NKJV

Michael is called the archangel, **meaning a chief or ruling angel**

Daniel also associates Michael with defending God's people - **At that time Michael shall stand up, The great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people** Daniel 12:1 NKJV

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... Daniel 10:13 NKJV

Michael appears repeatedly in Scripture in connection with **spiritual warfare and God's protection** of His covenant people, purposes, and plan

❖ Many Christians **either ignore** spiritual warfare or become **obsessed** with it

Our greatest enemy is not a **political party, another nation, or a person**; it is ultimately spiritual

❖ Our lives would change dramatically if we consistently remembered that our greatest battles are spiritual before they are physical

Instead of reacting, worrying, strategizing, and then finally praying, we would use Scripture as a **weapon instead of merely information**. We would stop treating **people like the enemy**. We would become much more **careful with our thoughts**. We would take **temptation more seriously**. We would understand that some victories **look like simply standing firm**

But they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. Revelation 12:8 NKJV

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world... Revelation 12:9 NKJV

Those four words in **verse 8** deserve emphasis: **"they did not prevail"**

satan **fights, opposes, deceives, and accuses**, but satan does not prevail; **he will not win!**

Jesus said concerning His Church: **...I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it** Matthew 16:18 NKJV

In **verse 9**, John now gives four descriptions of satan. Each reveal something about **his character and activity**

The great dragon - The dragon emphasizes satan's **ferocity and destructive nature**

Peter describes him similarly: **...your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour** 1 Peter 5:8 NKJV

satan does not merely want to **inconvenience God's people**; he seeks to **destroy God's people**

The serpent of old - This takes us back to **Genesis 3**. **"Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made"**... Genesis 3:1 NKJV

This means **Revelation 12** is part of the fulfillment of the conflict announced in - **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.** Genesis 3:15 NKJV

The Devil - the Greek word “diabolos” carries the idea of **slanderer** or **false accuser**

The devil attacks God's people partly through accusation

He wants believers continually looking backward at their failures rather than toward Christ

Satan - The Hebrew word satan (שָׂטָן) literally means "**adversary**," "**opposer**," or "**accuser**"

He opposes **God's purposes** and **God's people**, but his **primary weapon** is not raw power, it's **deception**

John adds another description: ...**who deceives the whole world...** Revelation 12:9 NKJV

Jesus said: ...**When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it** John 8:44b NKJV

satan's strategy has remained consistent with **Genesis 3:1** - He attempts to make us: **question** God's Word, **doubt** God's goodness, and **believe** something contrary to God's truth

❖ Which raises an important question for us, Grace. **Whose voice are you believing?**

The enemy says: God has abandoned you; God's Word cannot be trusted; your sin defines you; your past disqualifies you; God will not forgive you; nothing will ever change

But God's Word says: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins...** 1 John 1:9 NKJV

Therefore there is now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus... Romans 8:1 NKJV

So, when satan speaks lies into our minds, believers must answer with THE TRUTH

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. Philippians 4:8 NKJV

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 Revelation 12:10 NKJV

❖ This is one of his primary objectives. He **accuses**; he **condemns**; He reminds us of **past failures** **satan says, you'll never change**. God says: I am still working on you. **He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.** Philippians 1:6 NKJV

satan says, God could never forgive you. God says: confession is met with forgiveness and cleansing. **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** 1 John 1:9 NKJV

satan says, you're too broken. God says: brokenness does not disqualify you from His presence. **The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a contrite spirit** Psalm 34:18 NKJV

satan says, you've failed too many times. God says: your failure is not the final verdict. **There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.** Romans 8:1 NKJV

❖ Many believers live **under guilt** that Christ has **already removed**. **Conviction** comes from the **Holy Spirit** and **leads to repentance**. **Condemnation** comes from satan and leads to despair

Learn the difference. When you confess your sin...Believe God's promises

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 Revelation 12:11 NKJV - **The Three Marks of an Overcomer**

This is one of the most **powerful descriptions of Christian victory** in **Revelation**. Notice carefully how believers overcome satan

By the Blood of the Lamb – “**And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb...**”

Their victory begins with **something Jesus did**, not something they did

This is foundational: A believer's victory does not begin with our **determination, discipline, courage, biblical knowledge, morality, or even our spiritual maturity**

It begins with the **shed blood of Jesus Christ**

Peter writes: **knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot** 1 Peter 1:18–19 NKJV

❖ We do not defeat satan by becoming stronger than satan; **we overcome** because Jesus has already defeated him through the cross

He made a public spectacle of them... Colossians 2:15 NKJV

By the Word of Their Testimony - **...and by the word of their testimony...** Revelation 12:11 NKJV

The saints openly identify themselves with Jesus Christ; their testimony declares that “**I belong to Jesus**”

You see, a genuine believer who knows what Christ has done for him or her, will refuse to deny Him

Paul writes: **For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes... Romans 1:16 NKJV**

Grace, you may not know how to answer every **theological argument; understand every prophecy; or have every biblical answer**

But if you know Christ, you can say, **this is who I was, and this is what Jesus did**

Never underestimate the power of a Christ-centered testimony

They did not love their lives to the Death - ...and they did not love their lives to the death Revelation 12:11 NKJV

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it Mark 8:35 NKJV

Their attitude is essentially saying, "Jesus is worth more to me than my own life"

You are not your own. For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's 1 Corinthians 6:19–20 NKJV

My plans, my body, my time, my gifts and my future are not my own

That is the kind of faith, satan cannot intimidate

You cannot threaten someone with losing everything when that person has already surrendered everything to Christ

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain Philippians 1:21 NKJV

I want to **"See A Victory"**