

Thursday, October 19, 2017 - Day 291 – Ezekiel 41-42, Psalm 89:1-18, Revelation 12

Revelation 12. *“War broke out in Heaven. Michael and his Angels fought the Dragon. The Dragon and his Angels fought back, but were no match for Michael. They were cleared out of Heaven, not a sign of them left.”* Doesn't it sound and look like a scene from the movie *Star Wars*? The book of Revelation speaks about a great battle taking place between the forces of good and the forces of evil at the end of time. We believe that as the leader of the forces of good and the protector of human race, Archangel Michael comes to the aid of those who struggle against the spiritual forces of wickedness that corrupt and destroy the people of God. Satan, the Evil One, along with hosts of fallen angels, stands opposed to God and wars constantly against God and against human beings. In our reading today we see a battle being fought in heaven between Archangel Michael and Satan with Satan ended up losing and being cast down to earth. However, not being totally destroyed, Satan continues to go after 'the children who keep God's commands and hold firm to the witness of Jesus.'

We don't often think that the battle that rages in our life such as temptations, seductions and doubts on the one hand and the inspirations or urges to do good in these big cosmic terms. It is happening in a microcosmic level within ourselves all the time. Let us follow our baptismal promise that we renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God lest we fall.

By The Very Rev. Koshy Mathews