



Life More Abundant Bible Study

Bible Prophecy: Revelation Chapter 12B

Revelation Chapter 12 verse 7 introduces a shift in scenery from the events that took place under the first heaven, the earth, to the events which occurred under the third heaven, the dwelling place of God.

V7: “ And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

The bible chronicles a *war* in heaven between **Michael the Archangel** (Jude1:9) and Satan, the dragon. According to the Greek language, the root of the word “war” is where the word “politics” is derived. In other words, the bible is not speaking of physical warfare or military offensives, but rather an ideological war, similar to the ever increasing grappling among political parties’ in U.S. politics. Therefore, Satan was at war with the *ideologies* of God, more specifically, His rightful claim to Sovereignty, His government, and most of all, His Law.

In contest with the One who created him, the One who established him as the highest and most exalted of the created angels, and the One who demonstrated the greatest love towards him, Lucifer staged the highest of all rebellions in opposing the God-head. Instead of allegiance to God, Lucifer corrupted his beauty (Isaiah 14:12-14) and chose to blaspheme God [speaking as and assuming prerogatives belonging only to God], exalting himself above God, desiring his throne to be higher than God’s, and influencing a third of the angels of heaven to side with him in rebellion against the God-head. More specifically, Lucifer staged his directed attack against Michael the Archangel. The implication therefore, is that Michael the Archangel is a member of the God-head. Consider the following to better understand this assertion:

- The heavenly name Michael means “[One] Who is like God”
- The Greek prefix “Arch” signifies the highest, topmost, or chief
- The word “angel” means a messenger (Hebrews 1:14)
- The only Being having greater intelligence and superior power to that of the exalted angel Lucifer, is God Himself (Ezekiel 28:12-14)

In truth, Michael is the name given to the second person of the God-head before He assumed the name Jesus, meaning “Savior”. Jesus truly is “One Who is like God”, because He is God; Jesus is the Greatest Messenger for the Father the world has ever known (John 14:9); and Jesus, who is God, is the only One with sufficient power and authority to expel Lucifer and his rebellious hosts from heaven. Therefore, it is Jesus, the visible image of the invisible God (Colossians 1:15) who manifested Himself as an angel to the angels, similarly manifesting Himself as a man to mankind, that warred against Lucifer, the once exalted angel turned Satan and the devil.

Satan’s ideology of self-exaltation and self-worship are the key tenets of Paganism, the worship of false or foreign gods. Satan is paganism’s founding father and for this invention and its worship, he and his followers were expelled from heaven.

V8-9: “and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven 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."

Verse nine points out a very important fact, namely, that all men were or are still under some form of deception by an enemy who hates them, a common condition of mankind. Often what one has learned, has been exposed to, or has been taught in some manner is a product of his workings (2 Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 2:2). Satan deceives the whole world, and unless we become well acquainted with the Word of God and submit to God's guidance, we will continue to be deceived.

Though Satan, also known as the serpent or the devil, was cast to the earth, consider where he presented himself to the perfect pair, Adam and Eve. Why would he appear in this one location? Read Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Throughout God's perfect creation, planet earth, He placed one token of faith and obedience that served as a test of allegiance to the perfect pair, the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. It is in this one tree alone that Satan was limited to test the perfect pair.

V10: "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."

1. Describe how this verse gives a panoramic view of Christ's fulfillment of redemption? Consider also the following verses: John 3:16; 1 John 4:9, 10; Romans 5:8; Romans 3:24; John 6:47.
2. How does Satan accuse us? Consider the following verses: Numbers 20:8-12, 23-29, Deuteronomy 32:48-52, 34:1-7, Jude 1:9; Zechariah 3:1-5.

Satan in attacking the sons of God, often projects his own qualities upon them, for example, he denies their faithfulness to God and accuses them of being hypocrites. When men in sincerity try to do what is right and live for God, the adversary through suggestion strives to influence their minds that their efforts are pointless, and that they are beyond God's mercy and grace.

V11: "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."

1. What Lamb is being referred to in this verse? John 1:36; Revelation 5; Hebrews 10:4-10
2. What does the blood of the Lamb do? Read Romans 5:9; Ephesians 1:7
3. What is the word of their testimony? Read Psalm 119:11, Matthew 4:10, Ephesians

6:10-20)

Summary:

God tells us how we are to overcome Satan's attacks and deceptions: *By the blood of the Lamb and the word of the "our" testimony* (Rev 12:11). As the Christian hides the Word of God in his heart and makes its promises his personal testimony of faith, he receives grace from the Lord to become victorious over sin and the devil. Further, by completely relying upon Jesus, the Lamb of God, and His gracious gift of salvation offered through His sacrificial death, the humble saint stands justified before God, despite the accusations of Satan (Zechariah 3:1-5; Malachi 3:3, 4). Oh, what a wonderful God we serve!

For a better understanding of prophetic imagery, terms and symbols used in this bible study, refer to the study, [Interpreting Bible Prophecy](#), also located on the Life More Abundant Bible Study website.





Fernando Botero

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us].

Hebrews 9:11, 12





