

# SPIRITUAL WARFARE

## *Part 1: Satan vs Christ*

Revelation 12:1-5

### **Introduction:**

- A. Many have wrong ideas about Satan. We must get our information about him from God's w\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. Eph 6:12 states that our real struggle is not against physical things but against s\_\_\_\_\_ forces of wickedness in the heavenlies (i.e. unseen places).
  - 2. Knowledge about Satan will better equip us for spiritual warfare.
- B. Revelation 12 pictures three spiritual battles involving Satan
  - 1. Satan's battle against C \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. Satan's battle against a \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. Satan's battle against God's p \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Today's lesson focuses on Satan's battle against Christ giving two contrasting s\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven.
  - 1. A pregnant woman gloriously dressed about ready to give b \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. A scary dragon ready to d \_\_\_\_\_ the child as soon as it is born.

### **The nature of Satan**

- A. The description of Satan
  - 1. R\_\_\_\_\_ in color, having horns and a tail.
    - a. The depiction of the devil in plays and movies is partially derived from Rev 12:3 but usually a p \_\_\_\_\_ is added.
    - b. This is not what Satan really looks like (just like Jesus does not look like a lion or lamb). Satan is a spirit being created by God and so is in \_\_\_\_\_ (Col 1:16).
      - 1) Satan was created g \_\_\_\_\_
      - 2) Satan and some angels s \_\_\_\_\_, becoming evil (2Pet 2:4; Jude 6)
  - 2. Passages of scripture wrongly applied to Satan
    - a. Isaiah 14:12-14 – Lucifer or star of the morning
      - 1) This passage is a prophecy against the King of B \_\_\_\_\_ not about the devil (v. 4)
      - 2) This passage calls Lucifer (star of the morning) a m \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 16)
      - 3) The Latin Church Father's used this passage as an a \_\_\_\_\_, not as the passage was originally intended.

- b. Ezek 28:12-19 - This passage is about the king of T\_\_\_\_\_ not about the devil (see v. 12).
- B. Below are wrong ideas about the devil
1. Wrong idea #1 - The devil is not real, but just a personification of e\_\_\_\_\_ (i.e. just a picture of evil).
    - a. The devil would love people to believe this
    - b. The devil would know that it is just one step from believing that God is not real but is just a mere picture of g\_\_\_\_\_.(see Ps 14:1).
  2. Wrong idea #2 - The devil k\_\_\_\_\_ everything
    - a. Only God k\_\_\_\_\_ everything (1Jn 3:20; Heb 4:13; Rev 2:23).
    - b. Therefore, the devil has limited knowledge and is unable to read m\_\_\_\_\_ or know people's hearts
  3. Wrong idea #3 - The devil is the s\_\_\_\_\_ most powerful being
    - a. Satan is no more power than any other a\_\_\_\_\_.
    - b. Satan's power is n\_\_\_\_\_ compared to God's power.
- C. The true nature of Satan
1. His name means one who o\_\_\_\_\_
  2. In this vision, Satan is constantly working in opposition to someone.

### **Satan's opposition to Christ**

- A. The three characters in this vision
1. A w\_\_\_\_\_
  2. A d\_\_\_\_\_
  3. A c\_\_\_\_\_
- B. The child represents J\_\_\_\_\_ because of the language, *rule all nations with a rod of iron* (Rev 2:27; Ps 2:7,8).
- C. But who does the woman represent?
1. She can represent M\_\_\_\_\_ because her other offspring are *those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus* (v. 17).
  2. She cannot represent physical I\_\_\_\_\_ because most of them rejected Christ (see Jn 8:39,40)
  3. She must represent the first believers (who were Jewish) who accepted Christ (numbering over \_\_\_\_\_ - 1Cor 15:6)
    - a. She has a v\_\_\_\_\_ crown (Greek word – stephanos meaning victory wreath) – Jm 1:12 promises this crown to all those who l\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
    - b. The 12 stars on the wreath correspond to the 12 t\_\_\_\_\_ of Israel and is a definite picture of Jewishness.

- c. The 500 gave birth to the church by bringing them to Christ
- 1) Acts 1:8 – you will be My w\_\_\_\_\_ in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth (made up of Jews and Gentiles who would *obey the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus*).
  - 2) The imagery of childbirth was often used when speaking of bringing a person to Christ (1Cor 4:17; Philemon 1:10)
- d. The woman crying out in labor pains simply pictures the eager ex\_\_\_\_\_ of these Jews for the arrival of the Christ. (Lk 3:15).
- D. The dragon represents S\_\_\_\_\_ as verse 9 states
1. He has great p\_\_\_\_\_
    - a. He has r\_\_\_\_\_ power – has seven kingly c\_\_\_\_\_ (Greek word diadema).
    - b. He has w\_\_\_\_\_ power - tail sweeps 1/3 of the stars and throws them to the earth
      - 1) Some interpret the stars to be the fallen a\_\_\_\_\_ because 1:20 states that stars represent angels.
        - a) First, the angels in 1:20 refer to h\_\_\_\_\_ messengers not spirit beings.
        - b) Second stars are seen throughout revelation but obviously do not refer to angels (e.g. 12:1)
      - 2) Satan uses that power to fight against the c\_\_\_\_\_
        - a) Satan used Herod as a means to k\_\_\_\_\_ the baby Jesus but failed.
        - b) Satan t\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus to deviate from His mission but failed (Lk 4:13)
        - c) Satan used Judas to bring Jesus to His d\_\_\_\_\_ (Lk 22:3)
          - i. Jesus defeated Satan by the c\_\_\_\_\_ (Col 2:13-15)
          - ii. Jesus defeated Satan by the r\_\_\_\_\_ - The child was caught to God and His throne (Rev 1:5).

## Conclusion:

Satan vs Christ – Christ w\_\_\_\_\_!