

# REVELATION

The War in Heaven  
(Revelation 12:7~12)





## Satan fights on two fronts:

1. Tried to exalt his throne in heaven and still uses access to heaven to accuse believers.
2. Tempted Adam and Eve to sin on earth and tempts and deceives people today.

*Revelation 12:6-12: And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days. Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.*

*And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"*

Why is the dragon set on pursuing the woman? Why is the dragon so angry?

We face Satan's accusations and opposition.

We must overcome Satan with the strength of God and our testimony in Christ.



# 1. The war in heaven

❖ Revelation 12:7-8: Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

# 1. The war in heaven

A. For now, Satan has access to heaven.

- ❖ He was cast down from being the anointed cherub, but he was not yet permanently banned from heaven.
- ❖ Where do we see Satan entering heaven again? What does he do while there?



# 1. The war in heaven

B. In this battle, Satan is defeated in heaven.

- ❖ Revelation 12:9: And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- ❖ In Revelation 12's flyover view of history, *when* does this battle take place?

# 1. The war in heaven

C. When Satan is cast out, there is great rejoicing in heaven.

❖ Revelation 12:12: Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!



# 1. The war in heaven

D. In great contrast, there is great woe on earth.

- ❖ Revelation 8:13 announced three woes on earth, but those are the last three trumpet judgments.
- ❖ This is probably the time of the greatest demonic activity on earth in the history of the world.



## 2. Satan is the deceiver of the whole world.

- ❖ Revelation 12:9: And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- ❖ Satan has been a liar since the beginning when he lied to Eve and deceived her.

## 2. Satan is the deceiver of the whole world.

### A. Satan seeks to deceive believers.

- ❖ Satan often uses unbelievers to try to deceive us about sin.
- ❖ Satan often tries to deceive us into not trusting God.
- ❖ We must be grounded in God's truth to be able to reject Satan's deception.

## 2. Satan is the deceiver of the whole world.

B. Satan seeks to deceive unbelievers about God.

❖ John 8:44-45: You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me.



## 2. Satan is the deceiver of the whole world.

C. Satan seeks to deceive unbelievers about Christians.

- ❖ The Romans accused early Christians of atheism and cannibalism.
- ❖ Many today do not understand what the Bible says and what Christians believe.



### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

❖ Revelation 12:10-11: And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.”

### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

A. Satan has accused believers before God throughout history.

❖ Of what does Satan accuse us?





*Zechariah 3:1-5: Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.*

### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

B. When Satan accuses, Christ stands as our Advocate and Defender.

- ❖ Who stands by Joshua in Zechariah 3:1, 5?
- ❖ 1 John 2:1: My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

B. When Satan accuses, Christ stands as our Advocate and Defender.

❖ On what grounds does Christ defend us?



**GOOD INTENTIONS**



### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

B. When Satan accuses, Christ stands as our Advocate and Defender.

❖ 2 Corinthians 5:21: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

❖ 1 Peter 3:18a: For Christ also suffered once for sins, **the righteous for the unrighteous**, that he might bring us to God . . .

### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

C. As believers, we are called to be overcomers.

❖ Revelation 12:11: And they have **conquered** him **by the blood of the Lamb** and **by the word of their testimony**, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

### 3. Satan is the accuser of the brethren.

C. As believers, we are called to be overcomers.

1. Ultimately, it's the blood of the Lamb that conquers death and Satan.

2. We receive that salvation through faith in Christ.

# Conclusion: What do we do with what God has revealed?

- How do the believers in Revelation 12 overcome Satan?
- We are called to be overcomers:
  - Overcome by holding to our faith in Christ.
  - Overcome by living by God's Word and rejecting the lies of Satan
- We must overcome Satan with the strength of God and our testimony in Christ.



NEXT TIME:

REVELATION 12:13-17

- The Dragon Pursues the Woman