

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

Introduction:

Chapter 12 is a chapter of conflict. It shows conflict from the past to the present and even into the future. Praise God, one day the conflict will end!

In verses 1-6, we saw the attacks by Satan against Israel and against Christ.

When we come down to verse 7, we are confronted by more conflict. In the first part of verse 7 we see there is a war in Heaven. Here is where we need to separate fact from fiction.

- 1) Satan is not in hell. He has never been in hell, but he is headed there in the not too distant future.
- 2) Satan has had and still has direct access to Heaven, but that access will be cut off one day soon. (Exp. Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7)

Let's observe the conflict that invades the Lord's heavens:

I. THE CONFLICT IN HEAVEN. (12:7-8)

It is hard to comprehend, but there will be war in Heaven.

There are two key angels that we are told about in the Bible.

1. Gabriel – The Announcing Angel. His name means “*Man of God.*” Birth of John the Baptist to Zacharias (Luke 1:19)
Birth of Christ to Mary (Luke 1:26)
2. Michael– The Commanding Angel in charge of Israel’s protection and the leader of Heaven’s armies. His name means “*Who is like God.*”
Jude 1:19 - “*Michael the Archangel*”
1 Thessalonians 4:16 - “*voice of the archangel*”

He has had previous battles with Satan. He battled Satan for the body of Moses.

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

Jude 1:9–“Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”

It is believed by many that Satan may have wanted the body of Moses to get people to worship it.

Michael had to rely on the power of God for his defense. If Michael can’t take Satan on without God’s power, neither can we!

We must realize that Satan is very real and he is our enemy!

*1 Peter 5:8-9–“Be sober, be vigilant; because **your adversary the devil**, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

*Ephesians 4:27–“**Neither give place to the devil.**”*
(i.e. Don’t give Satan ground so he can get a foothold in your life!)

*James 4:7–“Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.”*

Satan is out to ruin our lives with laziness, apathy, stress, suicide, sexual immorality, materialism, criticism, discouragement, fatigue, and death.

You may say, “**I know I am to resist the Devil, but how do I do this?**”

1. **Recognize temptations for what they are—an attack from Satan.**

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

Ephesians 6:12—“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

**2. Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.
(Ephesians 6:10)**

We will probably not say “no” to temptations if we rely on our own might.

- a. Plead the Blood of Christ.
- b. Rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance and power!

3. Put on the whole armor of God. (Ephesians 6:14-17)

Ephesians 6:11—“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

4. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and don’t make provision for the flesh.

Romans 13:14—“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.”

5. Use the Word of God to resist the Devil!

(Exp.— Christ in Matthew 4 said “*It is written*” 3 times)

6. Use the power of prayer!

Ephesians 6:18—“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

1 Thessalonians 5:17—“Pray without ceasing.”

THE CONFLICT IN HEAVEN.

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

II. THE CASTING OUT OF SATAN. (12:9-10)

The outcome of the war in Heaven is the defeat of Satan and his complete and final banishment from Heaven’s domain.

As we said previously, Satan and his angels or demons still have access to Heaven, but that will end one day.

A. We See The Devil Exposed.

1. He Is Called “The Great Dragon.”

A monstrous, dreadful creature.

2. He Is Called “That Old Serpent” (Genesis 3)

This makes me think of Satan’s subtlety.

3. He Is Called “The Devil” - “Slanderer, accuser”

The devil makes accusations - Sadly most of the time the devil doesn’t have to lie about us in his accusations!

Thank God for 1 John 2:1 - We have an Advocate.

4. He Is Called “Satan” - “Adversary”

Satan is our enemy. His ways lead to death and destruction!

5. He Is A Deceiver - Has deceived us all at one time or another! With his deception:

a. He blinds men’s minds—2 Corinthians 4:4

b. He tries to sift Christians.

Luke 22:31—“And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:”

c. He tries to destroy men’s lives.

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

1 Corinthians 5:5—“To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.”

B. We Know Satan’s Destiny.

1. After he is kicked out of Heaven, he will cause even more turmoil on earth during the Tribulation Period!

When Michael and his army defeats Satan and drive him out of Heaven, there will be great rejoicing in Heaven, but great woe upon the earth as Satan’s fierceness is unleashed on the earth.

2. Then, he will be chained by an angel in the bottomless pit at the end of the Tribulation. (*Revelation 20:1-3*) For 1000 years.
3. Then, he will be freed for a season at the end of the millennial reign of Christ. (*Revelation 20:7-8*)
4. Then, Satan will finally be defeated and cast into the Lake of Fire. (*Revelation 20:10*)

THE CONFLICT IN HEAVEN...THE CASTING OUT OF SATAN...

III. THE CONQUERING POWER. (12:11)

Satan is defeated by the blood of Jesus Christ, and by the word of their testimony! There is power in the blood!

A. There Is Redeeming Power And Forgiveness In The Blood!

Ephesians 1:7—“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

B. There Is Cleansing Power In The Blood!

1 John 1:7—“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

IV. THE CONFLICT WITH SATAN ON EARTH. (12:12-13)

Satan can read and he knows he only has a short time after he is kicked out of Heaven.

He will vent his rage upon the nation of Israel.

Many will die at the hand of the Anti-Christ, but God will protect a remnant of His people.

V. THE CARE OF GOD. (12:14-16)

As the Anti-Christ pursues Israel, God will care and protect His people that find refuge in the wilderness.

The phrase “*given two wings of a great eagle*” is terminology for the protection of God.

When Israel came out of Egypt, **they were brought out on eagle’s wings. (Deuteronomy 32:9-13)**

Just as God protected Israel in the wilderness, He will miraculously protect and provide for a remnant of His people in the future for the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.

That is the meaning of the phrase “time (1 year), times (2 years), and half a time (½ a year).”

Satan working through the Anti-Christ will command that Israel be destroyed by a flood.

**THE COMING OF THE LORD
THE GROWING CONFLICT
REVELATION 12:7-17**

This could be a literal flood or more likely the flood of a great army. This flood of water or an army will be swallowed up by the earth opening up and swallowing up this flood.

VI. THE CLAMOR OF SATAN. (12:17)

Satan will unleash his fury on believers in the Tribulation, beheading those who have the testimony of Jesus Christ in their lives and refuse to worship him and take his mark.

Conclusion:

The only sure way to defeat the Devil is through the Blood of Jesus! It will do the trick in the Tribulation and Satan runs in fear from the Blood in our day!

Praise God, the precious Blood of the Lord Jesus is sufficient to defeat the devil forever and eventually it will put him in his rightful place. HELL!

Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? If not, why not come to him today?

If you are washed in the blood, are you resisting the Devil as you should? Are you experiencing victory over sin, the flesh, and the Devil?