

Sermon Series: Revelation - Jesus Revealed Sermon Title: The Unseen War Revealed

Scripture: Revelation 12:7-17

Stephen Schultze

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Introduction: Revelation 12:1-6 reveals two great signs in which we see (1) Satan's efforts to dethrone Jesus and to destroy God's work, and (2) God's faithfulness in protecting and growing His people in the wilderness. **Revelation 12:7-17** pulls back the curtain on the invisible spiritual war.

"There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased with both errors." C.S. Lewis

- I. The war of the ages leads to a heavenly victory which results in the relegation of Satan. (v. 7-9)
 - Michael, the Archangel Daniel 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 1:9
 - Satan thrown down John 12:31; Hebrews 2:14 (see also Isaiah 14:12-15)
- II. The victory brings rejoicing in heaven, but Satan's relegation will lead to great tribulation upon the earth. (v. 10-12)

Scriptures: Revelation 7:14; Luke 14:26; Romans 8:33; 1 Corinthians 15:57

III. The persecution of the people of God will be but the desperate efforts of the doomed deceiver. (v. 13-17)

Eagle's wings - Exodus 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:10-11; Isaiah 40:31

Time, times, and half a time – Rev. 12:6; Daniel 7:25; 12:7

Flood - Psalm 18:4; 32:6; 69:2; Isaiah 43:2

Satan's deceit - Matthew 24:24; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10; Revelation 13:13-15; 16:17

Earth opening - Numbers 16:30-33

Conclusion: How should we live knowing these truths? We should be soberminded as we persevere in confident, dependent assurance. (1 Peter 5:8-11; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:4)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

- 1. In what way do verses 1-6 relate to verses 7-17?
- 2. What does the battle in the heavens reveal to us about Michael, Satan, and God?
- 3. How do believers conquer by "the blood of Lamb" and the "word of their testimony"?
- 4. Why is Satan so intent on destroying God's people?
- 5. What are Satan's primary means to destroy God's people?
- 6. What is significant about the description of God's people as "those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus'? Does this accurately describe you?