

AN ON-GOING CONFLICT IN THE UNIVERSE

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ascension and His second coming is referred to as the Church era.

So, in the world today, there is an on-going intense conflict between Jesus people and Satan's people (2 Corinthians 10:3-6, Ephesians 6:10-19). Satan is keeping people in bondage, sufferings, pains, and misery by his devices, wiles and works of the flesh (2 Corinthians 2:10-12, Ephesians 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:24-25). However, Jesus people are setting people free by means of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the name and blood of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit (Mark 16:17-18; Luke 10:19). Friend, with this understanding, set your mind to do the needful playing an active role in wrestling against the adversary until the rapture of Jesus people from the world. Interestingly, God's designated horses are also patrolling the earth for Him (Zachariah 1:7-11). Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:57). Fight on gallant soldiers of the Cross at your duty post! Pray and preach, Pray and teach, Pray and heal the sick, Pray and set the captives free! Hallelujah!

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here is the Being the LORD God Almighty who has neither beginning nor end. He is the Self-existing Being (the uncreated). However, in His wisdom and counsel He created all things in the heavens, earth and sea whether visible or invisible. His innumerable angels (spirit beings) and other hosts are in heaven (Nehemiah 9:6, Hebrews 12:22, Revelation 5:11, 7:9). The human beings, land animals, birds of the air and plants on the earth while the sea has fishes and sea animals in it. He created all things well and good; by Himself and for Himself (Genesis 1, 2; Acts 17:22-28; Colossians 1:16, 17; Revelation 4:11).

In course of time the universe, war erupted in heaven. Lucifer one of the chief angels revolted and led some angels with him against the LORD God Almighty. So, Michael another chief angel fought against Lucifer and his angels. Eventually, Lucifer was cast down to the earth and the sea (Revelation 12). Lucifer now known as Satan, the Devil, Fiery red dragon, the Adversary, the Wicked One, the Serpent, the Deceiver, the Accuser, etc. came to the earth and sea in great wrath to do havoc to all God's creation in them. What he does is to go to and fro on the earth, walk back and forth on the earth seeking to destroy God's creation (Job 1:7, 2:2; 1 Peter 5:8).

The first attempt of Satan at destroying God's creation was his visit to God's crown creation, Adam, in the Garden of Eden. There Satan met Eve the wife of Adam as the

serpent and deceived her to disobey God's Word to them (Genesis 3). This was the beginning of problem for the human race as sin entered the human race (Romans 5:12ff). Sin came with all its attendant problems. Among the several problems are man's loss of fellowship with God, ungodly fear, sickness, death and works of the flesh (Genesis 3:10).

In course of time Satan set-up his kingdom to control the world and demand worship from human beings on the earth. He goes to and fro the earth; He walks back and forth on the earth to create suffering and destruction in fact, Satan's works are many. Who attacked Job to waste his household, business and life? (Job 1 & 2). Who provoked David to number Israel? (1 Chronicles 21:1-30). Who entered Judas Iscariot's heart in order to betray Jesus? (John 13:27f).

In due time, the LORD God Almighty sent His Son Jesus to the earth on a rescue mission. Jesus came through the Virgin Birth, was dedicated in the temple and grew up in favour of God and man (Luke 2). He got baptized, anointed with the Holy Spirit and tempted by the Devil before he began his public ministry among the people. His ministry showed the nature of God's kingdom life to men. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38) until He finally died for the sins of mankind. Then, he was buried, went to hell (lower part of the earth) and rose again on the third day for our justification (Romans 4:23-25). He showed himself to His followers after His resurrection before ascending back to heaven. Yes, before Jesus went back to heaven, he made adequate arrangement of power and safety for His followers. He promised them the endowment of the Holy Spirit's power (Luke 24:49, John 14:15-18).

In the world today, Jesus followers have the power of the Holy Spirit in them and with them forever (John 14:17). So, Jesus followers are in the world controlled by Satan (John 17:15-16; 1 John 5:19), to continue the work of reconciliation that Jesus left in their hands (2 Corinthians 5:18ff). This work of reconciliation is the task Jesus disciples will do until Jesus comes back the second time to take away all his faithful followers (Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20; John 14:1-3). This space of time from Jesus