

The Victory over Satan and his demons by the Church

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Introduction

The coming of the Kingdom of God on earth also means the end of Satan and his demonic infestation of the earth and the people and nations of the earth. Jesus boldly declared (Math.12:28) “But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God then the Kingdom of God is come unto you.” John declared (1 John 3:8), “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil”. Jesus gave this power and authority over all the power of Satan to His church to liberate people and planet earth of this malicious presence and to execute judgment on these evil entities (Psalm 149).

But a majority of evangelical believers do not really believe this is going to happen. They believe the church will not defeat Satan because the church will be Raptured out of the earth so that Satan can take control of the world. Our 4th Principle of the Kingdom vision states boldly: The time for Satan’s defeat is now, not in a thousand years time and the Lord has empowered His church with the Holy Spirit and the authority of His Word to do the job.

Paul tells Timothy (1 Tim.4:1) that the time will come that many in the church will depart from the faith and give heed to the seducing doctrines of devils. If devils could preach doctrine to the church what do you think they would try to make the church believe? They know their time of judgment for them to be cast in the pit has come...so what is their desperate doctrine to the church? Here is what I think they would try to convince us of: It isn’t the time yet for Satan’s defeat (that will only happen a thousand years later at the end of the Millennium) and it isn’t the job of the church (Jesus and the angels will do that).

From the beginning of the great Azusa street revival that spread all over the world with millions of reborn Christians speaking in “new tongues” the devils knew the game was up...Jesus said (Mark 16:17), “*And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues.*” These new Spirit filled believers speaking in “new tongues” have the power to cast out demons and send them to the pit where they belong. But a new “doctrine” was taught to this great army of God: Dispensational Rapturism. This new doctrine taught the new Pentecostal believers this: It is not the time for

Satan’s defeat because the Antichrist will take over the world and it is not the job of the church to defeat Satan because the church must be Raptured out of the earth. The defeat of Satan will only happen in the distant future...at the end of the thousand years Millennium...and Jesus and the angels will do it!

Central to this idea are the following beliefs firmly held by the majority of evangelical preachers and taught by them to the church:

- Satan is the prince or ruler of this world and rules over the nations and appoints who he wills to rule.
- Satan will only be cast out of the heavens and down to the earth during the coming Great Tribulation when he knows that his time is now short.
- At the end of the Great Tribulation period Satan and his armies will be defeated at the battle of Armageddon by the return of Jesus and His saints and Satan will then be bound for a thousand years during the coming Millennial reign of Christ so that he cannot deceive the nations anymore.

The clear impression created by these false teaching is that during this “Dispensation of the Church Age” Satan is in fact triumphant to such

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an extent that he ends up with a world government presided over by his Antichrist. The church is unable to stand against this satanic onslaught and must in fact be rescued out of the earth in the Rapture as a measure of protection.

Let me give you scripture to counter this propaganda and for added measure let me clear up a couple of small matters as well; Satan's name is not "Lucifer" and a third of the angels of heaven are not in rebellion against the Lord...in fact it is only a few hundred and they will be quickly dealt with as we liberate planet earth from the foul presence of these fallen angels and their demon hordes.

So let's answer the following questions from scripture:

- Who rules on earth God or Satan?
- When will Satan be judged and cast out of the heavenlies...past or future?
- When will Satan be bound ...past or future?
- Who executes Satan's sentence of judgment... the Church now or angels in the future?

1. Who rules on earth, God or Satan?

How many times have you heard "faith preachers" (who ought to know better!) proclaim, "When Adam sinned he handed over the title deeds of the earth to Satan". And to substantiate this lie they actually quote Satan from Luke 4:6 "And the devil said unto him All this power I will give you and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me and to whomsoever I will I give it." As if Satan can utter one sentence without lying!

What does the Word of God say? Daniel the prophet (read Daniel 4) interpreted a dream that King Nebuchadnezzar had from God, a message from God that the prophet interpreted to him. The message from God was this: God is going to punish you for your pride until you learn the following lesson "...till you know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever he will." (Daniel 4:25)

But Daniel gives us further great insight into who the Lord has assigned rulership over the

earth. In Daniel 7 we have a great dream vision that he has. God reveals to him that the Lord will give rulership to four "beast empires" one after the other but during the time of the fourth empire (the Roman Empire)..."**the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever"** (Daniel 7:18)

So here is what the Word of God declares: The Lord God rules over the kingdom of men and he gives it to whosoever He wills (not Satan!). He gave rulership over Israel to certain gentile nations to punish Israel for their disobedience. He gave rulership to certain earthly rulers for a time being over His saints until His saints are ready for possessing the kingdom. When the saints are ready to possess the kingdom they will do so forever and ever and not just for a thousand years. The handover of earthly rulership started during the Roman Empire (the fourth beast empire) and it continues today and will continue forever and ever (and not just a thousand years!)...until every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord!

So who rules on earth, Satan or the Lord and His saints?

2. When will Satan be judged and cast out of the heavenlies?

There is a prevailing view among evangelicals that only one day in the distant future will Satan be judged and cast of the heavenlies and onto the earth during the Great Tribulation. They read Rev.12:7-10 "*And there was war in heaven...and the great dragon was cast out...Satan which deceives the whole world and he was cast into the earth and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven Now is come salvation and strength and the kingdom of our God and the power of his Christ..."*

So when was this great war in heaven when Satan and his angels cast out and salvation come and the kingdom of our God come and the power of His Christ? Sometime in the future still?

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Here is what Jesus said just before His crucifixion:

John 12:23-32, "...*The hour is come that the Son of Man should be glorified...Now is the judgment of this world: Now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I if I be lifted up shall draw all men unto me.*" Jesus again states in John 16:11 "...*the ruler of this world has been judged.*"

When the 70 disciples went out preaching the gospel of the Kingdom and returned victorious the bible tells us:(Luke 10:18) "*And the seventy returned again with joy saying Lord even the devils are subject to us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightening fall from heaven. Behold I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy...*"

So here is what the Word says: Satan has already been judged and cast out of the heavenlies, he is on the earth and knows his time is short, the Kingdom of God has already come and we have all power over the power of the enemy!

3. When will Satan be bound?

Again people read Rev. 20:2-3 and think this is some time in the future during the Millennium: "*And he laid hold of the dragon, the old serpent who is the devil and Satan and bound him for a thousand years...that he should not deceive the nations any longer*".

Remember what I said about "thousand" in Rev. 20 in Principle 1? It actually is in the plural "thousands" in the original Greek. So when did Jesus bind Satan **for thousands of years**? This is what Jesus says about binding Satan...

"How can anyone enter the strong man's house and carry off his property unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house." So has Jesus bound and spoiled the enemy?

Here is what Paul says...

Col.2:15, "*And having spoiled principalities and powers he made a show of them openly triumphing over them..*"

Church rejoice, Satan is cast out of the heavenlies, he is bound and defeated and we can proceed with plundering his house filled with lost souls!

4. Who executes the judgment on Satan...the church now or the angels in the future?

Paul writes to the Ephesians (6:12) and says "*For we (the church) 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.*"

Is this wrestling going to be successful? Yes! "*and the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.*" (Rom. 16:20) "*and they (the church) overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony.*" (Rev. 12:11)

Read what the Lord tells us in Psalm 149: 4-9... "*For the Lord takes pleasure in his people, he will beautify the meek with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds. Let the high praise of God be in their mouth and a two-edged sword in their hand; to execute vengeance upon the heathen and punishments upon the people; to bind their kings with chains and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all the saints. Praise ye the Lord*"

What honour does all the saints have? To bind the rulers of this world (Satan and his demons) and execute upon them the judgment handed down at Calvary. So who executes God's judgment on Satan and his demons? The saints of God, the church. When is this to happen? Now!

Explanation on Satan and Lucifer

I don't like all this reference by preachers and the church to Satan as "Lucifer". Satan means "adversary" and that is what he is. Everyone seems to think that Satan has a personal name "Lucifer" (taken from Isaiah 14:12, "How art

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thou fallen from heaven O Lucifer, son of the morning...") Here is the truth.

In the original Hebrew there is no proper name "Lucifer" written there like Gabriel or Michael is found in Daniel. What is written there in the Hebrew is "helel" meaning "shining one" or "light bearer". The Latin Vulgate written by Jerome translated this in Latin to "luciferos" and unfortunately the English translators just translated from Jerome's Latin straight into English as a transliteration (not as a translation) the word "Lucifer". Satan loves it when you call him "Lucifer" or light bearer...when the actual fact is that he is a bringer of darkness and in him there is no light or truth at all. Just stop it! Preachers especially ought to know better.

One Third of the Angels of heaven in Rebellion?

Another major propaganda effort by Satan is to depict his rebellion against the Lord as having the support of a third of the uncounted billions of angels. Just think of it. Billions upon billions of angels who are all sons of God and know Him as heavenly Father and who have known Him for uncounted billions of years are so disgusted with the Lord that they just cannot stand to be in heaven anymore. And upon what scriptural authority is this widely accepted "truth" based? Just one scripture in Rev. 12:3-4 which says the following:

"And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great dragon...and his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth..."

Upon this slim scripture a whole doctrine of a third of all angels are in rebellion against God. But this is not what the scripture says. It says the dragon's tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven and cast them to earth. We know this is not referring to the rebellious angels who were cast out of heaven because a few verses later it says that it is Michael and his angels who cast Satan and his angels to the earth (vrs. 7-9) and not the tail of the Dragon. So what does the tail of the dragon refer to and which third of the stars of heaven?

Here is what the Lord says about the stars in Genesis 1:14...

"And God says Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years."

We know how to use the stars for determining days, seasons and years but for ...signs? Well that is where astronomy and constellations and the Zodiac come in and there is where we are going to get a clue as to what the Lord is giving us a "sign" about in Rev. 12.

The constellation Draco (the Dragon) was well known to all the ancients. It's a constellation with a very long tail that extends through the northern sky and used to end as the pole star Draconis but due to the precession of the equinoxes the polar star is now Polaris. The twelve constellations of the Zodiac (which tell the story of salvation in the sky!) circle the earth at its equatorial circumference. But Draco the Dragon sits in the "sides of the north" and when you measure its tail across the constellations of the Zodiac it covers one third of the twelve constellations of the Zodiac. Below Draco is Virgo (the Virgin") which is why Rev. 12 begins with, "and there appeared a great wonder in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet and upon her head a crown of twelve stars..." So when Rev. 12 talks about Draco's tail casting a third of the stars of heaven to the earth, it is talking about the phenomenon of the "precession of the equinoxes" and their time it takes to move from one sign of the Zodiac to the next. That is why when the Dragon is cast to the earth he knows his time is short... I am not going to solve this time riddle for you lest people accuse me of being a "date setter", but dig deep here...there are mysteries here that the Lord told us back in Genesis to look out for. The stars hold keys to signs of the times, that is why the Magi knew when the Messiah was to appear!

How many angels rebelled along with Satan?

I don't know but I think the ancient book of Enoch that was widely read in Jesus day and which was quoted in our Bible by Jude has this

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to say about how many angels fell from heaven...

Enoch 6:6 says there were 200 fallen angels who descended on the earth to corrupt the earth and it then goes on to name the leaders of this rebellion. I will not bother to name them but believe me there is no “Lucifer” among them. But, yes I can agree with Enoch...about 200 rebellious angels among multiplied billions of true angelic sons of God who stayed true to the Lord! That sounds about right...