

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

HOW TO CONDUCT SPIRITUAL WARFARE

RLJ-1071

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PART 1A: LEARNING THE GROUND RULES

BASIC INFORMATION

- Before any soldier can be sent into battle, two things must happen:
 1. He must undergo basic training to become proficient with the weapons of warfare.
 2. He must be instructed as to who the enemy is and how to fight with them.
- Every person living on this earth is either a citizen of the Kingdom of God or the Kingdom of Satan. **Colossians 1:12-14**
- Since these kingdoms are at war with each other, by default, each citizen is at war with the citizens of the opposing kingdom, there is no neutrality. **Luke 16:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5; John 8:37-59; Ephesians 2:1-10; James 4:4**

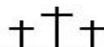
WHEN DID IT ALL BEGIN?

- There was only the Kingdom of God in all of the creation until Lucifer revolted. **Genesis 1:31**
- The angels were all created with a free will. They could enjoy life and serve God or reject the love of God. Lucifer was the first such angel to reject God and was able to persuade one third of the angels to join him in a rebellion. **Isaiah 14:12-21; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Revelation 12:3-4**
- A ferocious war raged throughout the universe as Michael and his armed forces drove Lucifer and his armed forces from galaxy to galaxy until they finally cleared the entire universe of the rebellious angels and confined them to the earth. **Revelation 12:7-12**

THE TRIAL OF LUCIFER

I wish that God had given a revelation to one of the prophets and told us about this trial in detail. Instead, we have to piece together this event from different references in the Bible.

- Jesus tells us that Lucifer and his angels have been sentenced to the Lake of Fire. **Matthew 25:41**
- In the Book of **Revelation 20:10**, we are told how this sentence is going to be carried out.
- The Bible tells us that the Devil was cast down to this earth; as a result, he is extremely angry, attacking the followers of Christ. **Revelation 12:13-17**



- ❑ Logic tells us that there was a trial, but there must also have been an appeal by the Devil since he was sentenced to the Lake of Fire, but is currently free to roam the earth and do damage to the citizens of the Kingdom of God.
- ❑ Let's look at this fact: God is the Creator of all things and is upholding all things so that they stay in existence (**Hebrews 1:1-3**). Thus God could have at the outset of Lucifer's rebellion withheld His life sustaining power, and Lucifer and his fallen angels would have simply ceased to exist. God did not do that, instead, God is going to uphold Lucifer and his fallen angels throughout eternity; they will never cease to exist and God is going to confine them to the Lake of Fire where they are to be punished forever.
- ❑ When this sentence was pronounced at the Lucifer's trial, he must have appealed and questioned the righteousness of God and cast doubt into the minds of the angels who remained loyal to God. Therefore, God had to defend and prove His righteousness, which the apostle Paul expresses in his letter to the Romans. **Romans 3:20-31**
- ❑ The conclusion I draw from all of this is that man was created to show the righteousness of God. Many people have wrongly theorized that God was lonely and so He created us so that He would have someone to talk with, but this does not line up with the Bible.

WHERE IS THIS DRAMA PLAYED OUT?

- ❑ In the scripture verses we have read so far, the planet earth was selected to prove God's righteousness. According to Isaiah and Ezekiel, the earth used to be the home planet for Lucifer and his capitol was named Eden.
- ❑ I believe that during the terrible space war that followed Lucifer's rebellion, the earth was destroyed as it was attacked by Michael and his angels. **Genesis 1:2**
- ❑ God then restored the planet to a habitable state and the Garden of Eden became the capitol for the new king of the earth, Adam and his wife Eve. **Genesis chapters one and two.**

LIMITATIONS

- ❑ In order to level the playing field:
 - God limited Himself as far as power is concerned.
 - Lucifer and his angels had limitations set on them.
 - Adam and Eve were created with less power than the angels and had the ability to choose between God and Lucifer.
- ❑ Adam and Eve were created perfectly sin free and given the authority to rule the earth. The Garden of Eden was perfect when it came to the climate and vegetation.
- ❑ God, in the form of Jesus, had the right to walk in the Garden every evening and fellowship with Adam and Eve. To accommodate Lucifer, the Tree of

Knowledge of Good and Evil was placed in the Garden which could be used as a temptation. **Genesis 2:15-17**

- ❑ Lucifer was not allowed to appear as an angel, so to get to Adam and Eve, he first had to seduce a living creature that would give up his body and allow itself to be possessed by the Devil for when the temptation would take place.

THE TEMPTATION

I believe that Lucifer was only given one opportunity to snare Adam and Eve. If they had refused to eat of the fruit, Lucifer's appeal would have been over and he and the other fallen angels would have immediately been cast into the Lake of Fire. The human race would have developed in a perfect sin free environment; however, God's perfect will for man was blocked by the Devil. The Bible tells us that once he had got into the body of the snake, he approached and seduced Eve when she was alone. Eve then seduced Adam. **Genesis 3:1-7**

WHICH KINGDOM ARE YOU IN?

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?