

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

SATAN'S INFILTRATION OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

RLJ-1155

JOHN S. TORELL

OCTOBER 12, 2008

PART 2: MANKIND IS LOCKED IN A LEGAL BATTLE

SATAN'S LEGAL RIGHT

There are two places in the Bible where we are told of Satan's legal right to challenge and test a man of God:

1. Job was attacked because he walked with God. **Job 1:6-21; 2:1-9**
2. The apostle Peter was attacked because he was a follower of Jesus. **Luke 22:31-32**

There was a war in heaven between God and Satan. Satan lost and is now disputing his sentence to the Lake of Fire by accusing God in the heavenly court system of being unrighteous. This is where man comes in to play as God shows His righteousness. Therefore, every born again believer will be challenged by Satan and his demons in order to discredit God!

THE WAR IN HEAVEN

Few Christians have understood that this war in heaven was a catastrophic event that encompassed the entire universe. No portion of the universe was untouched; the fire power unleashed by the two opposing forces destroyed and ruined planets as well as solar systems. We can see the damaged surfaces on the Moon and on Mars. **Revelation 12:7-10**

There are such a vast number of angels that God could not give man a numerical number. **Hebrews 12:22**

They were all created with a free will and had to make a choice to stay true to God or join Lucifer and the rebellion. We don't know how long Lucifer had to tempt the angels, how long they worked on their weapon systems or how long this war lasted. But it becomes clear that it was not a short period of time compared to human time keeping.

One third of the angels rejected God and joined Lucifer. **Revelation 12:4**

The prophet Isaiah was given a partial revelation and so was the prophet Ezekiel. The common message from these two men was the power of deception by Lucifer and the destruction he left behind. **Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19**

God never participated in this war, it was fought entirely by angels!



THE COURT SYSTEM IN HEAVEN

1 Kings 22:19-23; Daniel 4:13-17; Job 1:6-7; 2:1-2

THE SENTENCE OF SATAN

We don't have a section in the Bible where we are told exactly what took place after the war or how Satan was captured but the Bible tells us that he was sentenced to the Lake of Fire along with his angels. **Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10**

The conclusion we can draw from this is that his sentence has been stayed for the time being since Satan is still loose on this earth. In our court system, a person can be convicted of a crime but have the right to appeal his case. Looking at all the scriptures *it is my conclusion* that Satan accused God of being unrighteous when He sentenced one of His creatures to the Lake of Fire.

This challenge became known to all the angels and must have created doubt in minds of the angels who stayed with God. Since these angels are going to be retained in the new creation (**2 Peter 3:7-13; Revelation 21:1**), God wanted to make sure that all traces of doubt were removed. Therefore, man was created to prove God's righteousness. **Romans 3:20-26**

JESUS IS THE JUDGE

Since God is the source of all life, it would have been easy for Him to stop sustaining Lucifer and the fallen angels and they would just had evaporated. However, Satan's accusation would still be with the holy angels and so God had to limit Himself during this appeal process so that Satan couldn't say that "the deck was stacked against him." **1 Corinthians 15:22-28**

1. Satan has the legal right to attack any work of God on this earth. He attacked the nation of Israel, the disciples of Jesus, the apostolic church, etc.
2. Satan has the legal right to challenge every man and woman of God in order to break them and make them curse God. Every man and woman of faith listed in the Bible faced the wrath of the Devil. **Revelation 12:10-17**

The apostle Peter could not have put it any more clearly. **1 Peter 5:8-9**

CAN A BELIEVER IN CHRIST BE VICTORIOUS?

The answer is resoundingly yes! But it cannot be done in the flesh. It must be done through the power of Christ and the Holy Spirit. **John 15:1-5; Acts 1:4-8**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?