



True or False: The Battle Between God and Evil is Underway?

Pastor Joel K. Johnson

March 1 & 2, 2014

Read

Revelation Chapters 12-15:4

Study

Small group leaders: Since there is a lot of material this week, please review and select questions that will best generate learning and growth for your group this week. Don't feel the need to cover everything.

1. The 12th through 15th chapters of Revelation chronicle the great battle between God and evil. The truth is, the battle is already underway and has been for a long time. We must recognize this, because as Christians, we will be drawn into it, like it or not. To help fight the battle for God, we must recognize the enemy, Satan. By using deception, intimidation and accusation, the evil one can gain a foothold into our lives. But we can gain a foothold ourselves for God. That is why we exist as a church. We must continue to pray and struggle and labor and suffer, because one day, we know liberation will come. Remember: We fight from, not for, victory.
2. How does our view of history of God's people and world events change when we view them through the lens of the battle between God and demonic forces? How does that shape our view of God's sovereignty?
3. Name some times in the history of God's people when God thwarted Satan's attempts to prevent Christ from being born.
4. What are some times in your life that God has used for His glory and your good when the world may have seen the possibility of failure or defeat?
5. Although the peace of Christ has not been fully enforced in this world, the message of Christ's victory over Satan is clear throughout Revelation. How does this (or should this) truth affect the way that we view persecution and suffering?

6. Looking at the pursuit of Satan against God's people in Chapter 12, why would Satan choose to attack God's people when his attempts to defeat Christ were greatly thwarted at every turn?
7. What tool does Satan use to make you feel defeated? How does defeat threaten your faith and your usefulness in the Kingdom of God?
8. What must we be doing as believers to guard ourselves against attacks and to fight them when they come?
9. Why does fighting spiritual battles in our own power always lead to defeat? What does this say about the reality of our need to fight from Christ's victory instead of fighting for our victory?
10. John's vision of the second beast clearly reveals that God has allowed Satan to have the limited power in this world and that he (Satan) works through governments that usurp the authority of God and pretends to bring peace while persecuting believers. How is this truth both encouraging and discouraging?
11. Do we often place a limit on how much we are willing to endure for Christ in the midst of persecution? How do we teach our families and others to follow Christ in such situations, no matter the cost?
12. How does the description of God's judgment in Chapter 14 depict the holiness of God?
13. How does the redemption of God's people in Chapter 14 depict the love and forgiveness of God?
14. How would our lives differ if we made decisions based on the reality of spiritual warfare and the inevitable judgment of God?