

## War, Weapons and Winners

Revelation 12; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 9-13-20

### Three Levels of Reality

- Practical Level (what is happening/what people are doing)
- Philosophical Level (why people are doing what they are doing)
- Primary Level (the spiritual forces that are influencing and shaping people's thoughts and actions) – Ephesians 6:12; Act 9:13; 2 Timothy 4:14-15

### 1. The War

- ▶ We are in a war between God and Satan.

<sup>7</sup> And there was **war in heaven**, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, <sup>8</sup> and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. (7-8)

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to **make war with the rest of her children**, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. (17)

*Who are the combatants in the great Cosmic War?*

- The Woman, Israel - Revelation 12:1; Genesis 37:9-11
- The Child/Son, Jesus – Revelation 12:2, 4, 5; Matthew 2:13-16; Psalm 2:6-9; Revelation 19:15; Acts 1:9-11
- The Great Red Dragon, Satan – Revelation 12:3, 9
- The Rest of Her Children, the Church – Revelation 12:17

Note: The Fall of Satan – Revelation 12:5, 9-10; Luke 10:17-20

*Are you surprised that our country is rejecting Christianity?* – 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11; John 15:18-25

### 2. The Weapons

- ▶ Satanic weapons include government, religion and culture.

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to **make war with the rest of her children**, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. (17)

*How does the Great Red Dragon make war with the rest of the Woman's Children? (Revelation 13-19)*

- *The Beast from the Sea* - Revelation 13:1-2, 7

Pagan Government fulfilled in Rome and ultimately in the Anti-Christ; the weapon of legal and physical control and oppression

- *The Beast from the Earth* - Revelation 13:11-12, 15

Pagan Religion and Pagan Philosophy fulfilled in Emperor worship and ultimately in the worship of the Anti-Christ; the weapon of religion and philosophy; ‘false religion as the servant of the secular power’ - Wilson

- *The Great Harlot/City of Babylon* - Revelation 17:1-7

Pagan Culture fulfilled in Greco-Roman culture and ultimately fulfilled in the Anti-Christ socio-economic culture; the weapon of social and economic pressures; culture as the ‘servant of the secular power’ – Revelation 17:15-18

Note: We are in a war whether we want to be or not and it’s a war for the souls of men.

*Do you live like you are in a war?* - Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Timothy 2:1-3; Colossians 2:8; 1 John 2:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; Galatians 6:10

### 3. The Winners

- ▶ To be on the winning side, we must embrace the Winner.

And they overcame him because of the **blood of the Lamb** and because of the **word of their testimony**, and they **did not love their life** even when faced with death. (11)

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, **who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus**. (17)

Note: Those who are victorious in the war are those who have already died and are faithful even unto death. – Revelation 2:7; 2:11; 2:17; 2:26; 3:5; 3:12; 1 John 5:4; Revelation 1:1-6

*Have you died yet?* – Mark 8:34-38; Romans 12:1-2; Daniel 3:13-18, 24-27

To die is to turn from your sin and entrust yourself to Jesus:

- To die to your own righteousness and to rest in Jesus
- To die to the world in rebellion to God and to hope in God
- To die to your own will and to pursue love in obedience to God

Are you on the winning side?