

## Upcoming Schedule

*Date	Title
Sun., Feb. 22	Prophecy's Greatest Promise
Mon., Feb. 23	The Antichrist's Secret Agenda
Tues., Feb. 24	NO SEMINAR
Wed., Feb. 25	How to Face the Final Judgment
Thurs., Feb. 26	Whatever Happened to Right and Wrong?

\* 6:00pm—Supper served  
6:30pm—Program begins

\*\**Discover Prophecy* will continue nightly **through March 7** (except Feb. 24, Mar 3 and 4). We hope you'll plan to be here for each session!

Future topics include:

- ▶ *Doctrines of Demons and the Mystery of Death*
- ▶ *Why So Many Denominations?*
- ▶ *The Beautiful News About Hell*



Revelation's War: Battle for the Throne

# 02

Though it may sound like a contradiction of terms, the Bible speaks of a “war in heaven” (cf. Rev. 12:7). While every war carries significant weight and grave consequences, this cosmic conflict has directly impacted the entire course of earth's history. This is the war behind all wars, the struggle between good and evil that forms the backdrop to the life of tension and pain we all deal with. Many have rightfully wondered, How can an all-powerful and all-loving God possibly allow the kind of suffering and strife that we witness in the world everyday? Tonight, we'll discover how the war in heaven described in Bible prophecy enables us to make sense of suffering and empowers us to find hope through it all too.

### *In the Beginning*

- ☐ Consider the following verses: Genesis 1:1-3, 10, 12, 16-18, 21, 25, 27, 28, 31. As God assessed His creation, He saw that it was \_\_\_\_\_, very \_\_\_\_\_.

It is significant to note that the story of Scripture begins in Genesis 1 & 2 with this picture of perfection—a perfect world created for perfect humanity in perfect communion with a perfect God! Before the entrance of sin, there was no sign of pain, suffering, or death. What happened to produce the current state in which we live where pain and suffering is the norm?

### *Did God Goof?*

- ☐ Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
  - ▶ The sower sows only \_\_\_\_\_ seed.
  - ▶ The servants ask where the \_\_\_\_\_ came from.
  - ▶ The sower responds that an \_\_\_\_\_ is responsible.
- ☐ Compare to Luke 13:10-16. Jesus identifies \_\_\_\_\_ as the one responsible for the presence of pain and suffering.



## War in Heaven

- Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:7-9—Satan's native hometown is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Did God create the devil? Ezekiel 28:12-15. God created a \_\_\_\_\_ angel with the power to \_\_\_\_\_ whether to love God or not.
- Isaiah 14:12-14—At the very heart of this angel named Lucifer was a desire to receive the \_\_\_\_\_ that is only due to God. This self-centered, self-exalting desire is the very essence of sin itself.

## War on Earth

- Genesis 3:1-6—Humanity's parents essentially joined the \_\_\_\_\_ that Satan started in heaven.
- Genesis 3:7-12—This choice to love \_\_\_\_\_ over God was first motivated by a misrepresentation of God's character, and it generated an immediate impact on many levels that continues shape our reality today:
  - ▶ alienation from \_\_\_\_\_
  - ▶ brokenness in \_\_\_\_\_ relationships
  - ▶ inability to acknowledge \_\_\_\_\_ sin

## Got Questions?

- Why didn't God squelch the rebellion from the very beginning?
  - ▶ God's government is founded upon the principle of love, and in order for love to truly be love, it must have the ability to say \_\_\_\_\_.
- Who is responsible then?

As the parable of the wheat and tares illustrates, God is not responsible for the presence of sin and suffering in the world. The seeds of sin and selfishness were planted by \_\_\_\_\_, and the ruinous results of pain and sorrow are the pitiful fruits of \_\_\_\_\_ (both Satan's and humanity's).

## cont'd

- Will the rebellion persist indefinitely?
  - ▶ Luke 11:21-22; 1 John 3:8 — Jesus declared Himself to be the One stronger than the enemy who would come to \_\_\_\_\_ the works of the devil.
  - ▶ Revelation 12:10-11 (Jn. 1:29)—Those who overcome the devil gain victory by the blood of the \_\_\_\_\_ and by the word of their testimony.
- So...will God ever do something to eliminate evil?
  - ▶ He already \_\_\_\_\_. (Gen. 3:15; Isa. 53:5)
  - ▶ He always \_\_\_\_\_. (Heb. 4:16; 7:25; Isa. 63:9; 40:27-31)
  - ▶ He absolutely \_\_\_\_\_. (Rev. 20:10; 21:1-5; Ezek. 28:18-19; Nah. 1:9)

## Until Then?

- We can choose to trust God and stand on His side in this cosmic conflict. In doing so, we can find peace and strength in the midst of life's sorrows and struggles. We can rest assured of God's promised presence.
- Isaiah 41:10, 13

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. I will \_\_\_\_\_ you with My righteous right hand...For I, the Lord your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, ‘Fear not, I will help you.’”

Tomorrow Night's Topic:  
**Prophecy's Greatest Promise**