## God Versus Lucifer - Satan's Rebellion, Plot and Fate

Rosh Kodesh Samech! The first crescent of the new moon was seen in Jerusalem on Sunday evening making Monday the new moon day (sunset to sunset) and the first day of Chesvan the eighth Hebrew month. It is now two weeks after the Feast of Tabernacles and Shemini Azaret, the Last Great Day. Omak has a cool crispness in the air. The poplar trees have turned beautiful shades of gold accompanied by flaming red "burning" bushes and the honking of geese is heard overhead as they fly south for the winter. Numerous quail feed on the Bosc pears fallen to the ground. We have been busy harvesting, storing and sharing potatoes, pears, squash, eggplant and peppers (sweet and hot) plus a wheel barrow full of tomatoes in various stages of ripening is sitting in the barn. Two difference kinds of squash plants volunteered from the compost that had been spread over the garden area to enrich the soil.

God has been kind to us for which we are very grateful and praise the Lord for his blessings! Our health has been good overall. A couple of months ago, Cappy experienced a sudden extreme case of vertigo (dizziness) and nausea apparently caused by a virus in the inner ear. After treatment in the local Emergency Room, she has had no further problem. The September-October issue of the *Prophecy Flash* was mailed out the first of this past week. Many prisoners have come into contact with the magazine and have asked to be added to the T.P.M. mailing list. It seems that they are more interested in the things of God than most other people who are in a more comfortable and settled environment. We are reaching out to those who have lost their freedom and liberty and are asking questions and seeking better answers to life. The articles make people think outside the box and seek to prove what they have read.

We have found that choosing and eating a balanced and healthy physical diet promotes good health. When we hunger and thirst after the spirit of God, the right spiritual diet promotes a sound mind and provides knowledge, wisdom and understanding of His Word leads to God's gift of life everlasting. Today, people are looking for fables and myths asking for the things that "feel good" to them and their basic human nature. My wife gets on my case from time to time when I feel outraged at certain news items of unrighteous, unjust and immoral nature going on in the world today and respond with an angry verbal retort. Commercial advertisers, in their goal to sell more, appears to have taken the road of wild abandonment--immorality, heightened sexuality, possession of luxuries and pleasures, then there's the "yummy" enticing food ads to titillate your tastebuds – encouraging fast-foods, giant hamburgers, seafoods that are unclean, but extremely popular today; sugars, carbohydrates and oversized portions; next are the pharmaceutical drug ads promising to make your life easier, more fulfilled, and less pain (with major untoward side effects quickly read to exempt the Rx-company from liability). All this advertising is geared to seduce you to spend more money on "must haves."

1 John 2:15-17—"do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man—lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the boasting of what he has and does (pride of life)—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever." The devil appeals to the lust of the human flesh and lust of the eyes and the pride of life. He himself became proud and lifted up. The expression "dissed" has become a word that is part of main stream of communication today. It means to disregard, ignore, as if one does not count, or to hold in contempt. No one wants to be "dissed". Verse 18—"Dear children, this is the last hour, and as you have heard that the

antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed (it became obvious) that none of them belonged to us." Once upon a time these people were in God's church, but left or fell away—departed to do their own self appointed things. They did not remain steadfast in the faith—began to find fault and attack the true believers.

Written to the Corinthians so that they would not sin—regarding fellowship with the Father and the Son. 1 John 3:20-27 –"But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. No lie comes from the truth. Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either." "See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. Just as it has taught you, you will abide in him." Paul says in 1 Corinthians 11:18—"Now in these instructions, I do not praise you for it sounds as if more harm than good is done, when you come together as a church. I hear that there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. There must also be differences among you to show that those who are approved of God may be recognized among you for what they really are." Christ said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." If you listen to a person carefully long enough, scrutinizing enough you will be able to recognize the truth or error.

1 Corinthians 2:1-9—"Brethren, I came to you in weakness and my message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power." "However, we do speak a message of wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of the wisdom of God, a wisdom that has been hidden which God ordained before the world for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory. However, as it is written, No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him." "YOUR FAITH should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."

This week, I received an email about a preacher in Great Britain who propounds the idea that Caesar of Rome invented Jesus Christ in order to divide the Jews. This man says that Christ was not the Son of God, but the figment of a Roman Emperor's imagination to separate the Jews and those that were of the Christian religion. He is holding a conference (symposium) getting other "scholars" to talk about this theory of "new understanding!" What a false teaching! Cappy and I were talking after seeing advertisements of upcoming films and hearing the premise of new season's T.V. shows and she said it seemed possible that Satan has already been thrown out of heaven, because of the launching of such an assault on the minds of the people of the world through coming 2013-2014 movies of destruction, witchcraft, government surveillance, and horror. A few years ago, Satan made his visible inroad into television with the program "Bewitched" classified as a comedy; next came "Sabrina, the Teenage Witch." Now it has gone from comedy to tragedy with witchcraft being treated as reality. Just watching the advertisements makes me realize the world has gone plummeting down to a disturbing and pervading reality of the subjects of witchcraft, demonism and gay lifestyle sitcoms being shown on current television programs. Society is being bombarded from every angle with the philosophies of the ungodly world filled with vices--strong drink, immorality, lawlessness, drugs, and tyranny. These are fruits of the wiles of Satan the devil.

**Luke 10:18**—Christ said to his disciples, he "saw Satan fall as lightning from heaven." **Revelation 12**: 7— "there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He

was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him." In his vision, John then heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before out God day and night, has been hurled down." "But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short."

In Brighton, England, a group of atheists convened a meeting with all the things you would normally expect in a religious setting of a church, but they were celebrating Atheism and no God. There are two major deceptions that Satan has perpetrated upon the world. One—there is no God. Two—there is no Devil. In my book, *The First Genesis, a New Case for Creation*, I cover this and a lot more. Human thinkers, intellectuals, and philosophers want to get rid of the idea of God and the concept of the Creator God. They don't want anyone telling them what to do and how they ought to live. They do not want to have to live according to a structured set of divine orders, like the Ten Commandments. They want to make their own rules and laws—rule themselves; be their own god. This is what many do. That is what the antichrist is going to do. God says that anyone who adds to or diminishes anything from his word that he has commanded, will receive the plagues written in the book of Revelation. The attitude of the world is "eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die."

The antichrist is going to think to change times and laws. **Daniel 7:8**—the fourth beast—terrible and frightening and powerful, different from all the other beasts—"it had ten horns, and a little horn came up among the ten horns uprooting three of the others. This horn had eyes like a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully. It crushed and devoured its victims, and trampled underfoot whatever was left. As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom."

News—Dave Hodges/Activist Post.com (9/30/13)—Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). "We are 90 Days Away from the Total Loss of U.S. Sovereignty." "As America races toward her date with destiny, there is yet another 'fundamentally transforming event coming her way which is known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Many of us in the alternative media believe that some of the effects of the TPP will be felt before the coming war and martial law crackdown. However, after careful analysis, I am convinced that the brunt of the TPP will be felt after the America we know has been totally taken over in a post-war and post-economic collapse scenario." "At the end of the day, it does not matter when the implementation of the TPP comes, because when it does, America will no longer be recognizable to anyone who has grown up in this once great country."

"As if it is not egregious enough that Congress is not allowed to view TPP documents, the 600 corporate officials who form the TPP panel, (e.g. corporate officials from corporations such as **Monsanto** and **Wal-Mart**) have complete control of the development process of the TPP. Obama can view any part of the process. Congress and the American public cannot."

We are headed to become one great global entity, and are losing our American sovereignty as a nation. This week, Congress came within just a hair's width of passing the U.N. Gun Control legislation which Secretary Kerry said we would adopt and Obama is in favor of which would take away guns, hand guns and rifles from Americans and hunters and bring us under the United Nation's laws. Our government is supposedly in gridlock and non-funded, and has cut back on specific operations to cause deliberate pain to the public. We cannot go to a national park because they are closed and barricaded—not even a privately run park that receives no government subsidy but is on government land. The media backs the Democrats and the president, and is blaming the Republicans in the House of Representatives who have tried to

defund Obama Care. The so-called Affordable Healthcare Act is most unaffordable. The American citizens look upon the GOP as obstructive and are fed up with the whole situation.

Today, President Obama has records of everything at his disposal. The National Surveillance Agency (NSA) provides access to our computers, telephones, and medical records. Big Brother knows all about you if he wants to. Obama has driven our country into seventeen trillion dollars and pushing to raise it higher.

The **Revelation 12:1—**" a great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven. A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head." The woman refers to Israel and the twelve stars are the twelve tribes of Israel. The woman being with child cried out in labor pain to give birth." Christ was born from the tribe of Judah and his mother was Mary (Matthew 2). "Another sign appeared in heaven. An enormous red dragon appeared in the heaven with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns (empires that Satan is the ruler of down through the centuries) on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky (Luke 10:13) and flung them to the earth. The dragon (Satan) stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, a male who will rule all the nations with an iron *scepter*. And her child was snatched up to God and his throne. The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days." The seven heads represent seven great world empires down through the centuries with the last one being the Roman Empire. The ten horns represent ten nations of the end times in our day and the final resurrection of Babylon the Great. **Isaiah 14** tells of Satan's rebellion and fall as lightning from heaven to this earth and why.

Let's review the **two major deceptions** of Satan that people believe:

- 1. The first -"there is no God."
- 2. The second -"there is no devil/Satan."

The pagans have pictured the concept of hell and Satan as a fiery-flamed red being with two horns, and pitch-fork. The first part of the epic poem *Divine Comedy* allegorically depicts hell-- *Dante's Inferno* (Italian for hell) is an allegory telling of the journey of Dante through Hell (nine circles of suffering describing the recognition and rejection of sin) guided by the Roman poet Virgil. The concept of hell has been pictured differently by different cultures. In Chinese culture's understanding, hell does exist and is not only explained in words but depicted in visual arts by painters like Wu Dao-zi in the Tang Dynasty. In Beijing City—"A place of interest called *The Eight Great Places*—is a series of eight temples in a mountain. In one of the temples are frescoes on paintings of hell. This famous modern Chinese painting, "*Picture Reference of Causality – Painting of Hell*" was painted by Taiwan Chinese artist Taiwan Jiang Yizi in 2003. The painting is a roll 62 cm high and 50 meters wide. "All these scriptures, literature and art paintings have made hell a commonly known concept in Chinese people. It plays an important role in maintaining Chinese peoples' morality. However, these traditional understandings have been totally destroyed by the Communist Party since 1949" (foreigners—in-china.com/paintings-of-hell.html)

When I was a teenager living in Taiwan (formerly Formosa), my Dad took my brother and I to Hong Kong for three or four days and we toured different areas including the city of Kowloon, Hong Kong Island and took a bus tour up to the top of the mountain on the island. There we saw all these ancient Chinese Pagodas and temples and paintings with inscriptions. One painting was very bizarre to my mind as I studied it. The tour guide explained to me that it depicted a Chinese concept of Hell that displayed grotesque, evil scenes of people burning, roasting and shrieking in various conditions of torment. This is a pagan idea. **2 Corinthians 11:14-16**—"Satan himself transforms himself into *an angel of light*. Therefore, it is no great thing (not surprising) if his ministers also masquerade as servants of

righteousness whose end will be according to their works." Revelation describes the kingdom of Satan whose character is like that of a dragon, but he does not look like a dragon. Just because one has the wrong image of the devil does not mean that there is no devil. Just because the world worships God as a trinity and has the wrong image of God does not mean there is no God. There is a God and he is the Creator. **Genesis 1:1**—"in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." *Elohim* is Hebrew for God.

The devil was not originally the devil, but a super powerful cherub that covered (protected) God's throne whose original name was *Lucifer*. **Isaiah 14:12—"**How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened nations!" *He led them astray*. "You have said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars (angels) of God; I will also sit enthroned upon the mount of the congregation (heaven assembly) on the utmost heights (farthest side of the north) of the sacred mountain (NIV). I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High." He desired to usurp the power and throne of God and replace God himself.

**Isaiah 14:15-20**—"Yet you shall be brought down to hell (*Sheol* means grave) to the lowest depths of the pit. Those who see you will stare at you, they ponder your fate, saying: Is this the one (individual) who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who made the world like a wilderness and destroyed its cities, and who would not open the house of his prisoners (not let his captives go home)? All the kings of the nations, sleep in stately glory everyone in his own house (own tomb). But you will be thrown out of your grave like an abominable rejected branch. Like a corpse trampled underfoot, you will not join them in burial, because you have destroyed your land and destroyed your people."

The story interweaves back and forth describing the ancient King of Babylon and the end-time King of Babylon rising up in our midst today and Lucifer himself, a great archangel who tried to dethrone God in heaven. The prophet Ezekiel was told by the Lord, "Take up a lamentation for Tyrus." "Ezekiel 28 tells us the rest of the story about that great primordial rebellion. Here, it is about the ruler and prince of Tyre. The city of Tyre was an ancient Phoenician seaport on the Mediterranean Sea, located northwest of Palestine which was a merchant of many people for many coastlands—a city of great glory, and great riches and commercialism in the middle of the sea. In vv. 1-17, as in Isaiah 14:12-17, the language goes beyond the king of Tyre to Satan, inspirer and unseen ruler of all such pomp and pride as that of Tyre. Genesis 3:14-15 and Matthew 16:23 are other instances of thus indirectly addressing Satan. The unfallen state of Satan is here described; his fall is written in Isaiah 14. Moreover the vision is not of Satan in his own person, but of Satan fulfilling himself through an earthly king who arrogates to himself divine honors, so that the prince of Tyre foreshadows the beast (Daniel 7:8 and Revelation 19:20). Today, New York City and Washington, D.C. is the modern Babylon the Great (commercial Metropolis of today).

Ezekiel 28:1-4—"Son of man say to the prince of Tyrus, thus says the Lord God; Because your heart is lifted up and you have said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet you are a man, and not God, though you set your heart as the heart of God. Behold, you are wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from you: with your wisdom and your understanding you have gotten you riches, and you have gotten gold and silver into your treasuries." Verse 5—"By your great wisdom and by your traffic (trade) you have increased your riches and your heart is lifted up because of your riches." Verses 6-7—"Because you have set your heart as the heart of God; I will bring strangers upon you, the terrible of the nations; and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of your wisdom, and they shall defile your brightness." Verse 8—"They shall bring you down to the pit, and you shall die the deaths of them that are slain in the midst of the seas (the Mediterranean Sea on the west and the Red Sea on the east and the south). Will you yet say before him that slays you, I am God? But you

shall be a man, and no God, in the hand of him that slays you." **Ezekiel 28:12-19**—thus says the Lord God: "You were the seal (model) of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz, emerald, diamond, beryl, onyx, jasper, sapphire with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created." **Ezekiel 28:14**—"You were the <u>anointed cherub</u> (mighty angelic guardian). You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked back and forth among the stones of fire. You were blameless (perfect) in all your ways from the day you were created <u>until wickedness was found in you</u>. By the multitude (abundance of widespread trade) of your merchandise, you became filled with violence within and you <u>sinned</u>. Therefore, I will cast you out as profane out of the mountain of God, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Your heart was lifted up (proud) because or your beauty. You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor (brightness). I cast you to the ground. I made a spectacle of you before kings. By your many sins and dishonest trade you have defiled your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. All who knew you are appalled (astonished) at your fate, you have become a horror and shall be no more forever."

**Revelation 19:ll-18**— describes the second coming of Christ in glory (Matt. 24:16-30)."I saw heaven opened, and beheld a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he does judge and make war." "And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. Out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."

Revelation 19:19-21—"And I saw the beast and all the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." Armageddon is the appointed place where the 200 million man army and the beast and false prophet will be destroyed by Christ and his armies, the destruction of the beast, the false prophet—the great and awesome aspect of the day (Rev. 19:11-21). This "beast" is the little "horn" of Dan.7:24-26; the "one who makes desolate" of Dan. 9:27; the "abomination of desolation" of Matt. 24:15; the "man of sin" of 2 Thess. 2:4-8; and earth's last and most awful tyrant, Satan's cruel instrument of wrath and hatred against God and Israel/the saints. To him Satan gives the power which he offered to Christ (Matt. 4:8-9; Rev. 13:4). The Day of the Lord is that period of time when God openly intervenes in the affairs of men—in judgment and in blessing.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-12 — "Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our being gathered to him; don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction"—the Apollyon of Revelation 9. Apollyon means destruction. "He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshipped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. The secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so until he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming." Antichrist, called the lawless one and the son of perdition, is going to tell the world he is "Christ the Messiah". "The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because

they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason, God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness."

Stop and think about this comment, "dies the death of an alien." When Christ returns he will have an army of aliens (non-earth dwellers) with him. Verse 11—"moreover the word of the Lord came to me saying, son of man take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre (the real being behind the king of Tyre is Satan)." In the days of the city of Tyre which was built by men this side of the flood after Noah's time. It was not built back in the days of Adam and Eve. The Garden of Eden existed before the Flood and it was destroyed. So the king of Tyre never spent time in the Garden of Eden. The passage in Ezekiel 28:14 is talking about Lucifer, star of the dawn; "I fashioned you myself," God says, as a covering cherub for the purpose and mission of guardian to transport and protect my very throne. "You were perfect, full of wisdom and beauty from the day you were created until iniquity was found in you." God created Lucifer perfect.

Ezekiel received a vision of the majesty and wonder of God's glory, showing that God was more magnificent than anything to be found in heathenism, and impressing on his mind the greatness of the unseen God of Israel. The vision indicated the affairs of the world are not directed by impersonal laws of nature, but by a living Spirit. **Ezekiel 1:20-21** describes Ezekiel's vision of God's glory. The four faces in the vision (v10) prefigure the four cherubim.

"Each creature [or cherub] had four wings and four faces; and the likeness of the hands of a man was under their wings." Every one went straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; they turned not as they went. Their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another and two covered their bodies. Their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps. It went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright and out of the fire went forth lightning. And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning. Their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. The spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. A voice as the voice of the Almighty, like the noise of great waters, came from the firmament of terrible crystal stretched forth over their heads above. Above that firmament was the likeness of a throne made of blue sapphire stone, and high above the throne was a figure like that of a man upon it. From what appeared as his waist, he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire and from there down he looked like fire; brilliant light surrounded him. Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him."

**Ezekiel 10:19-20**—"This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubim." **Genesis 3:24** –after man was driven out of the Garden of Eden *cherubim*—celestial beings that guard and vindicate the righteousness of God—were placed at the east of the Garden of Eden with flaming swords which turned every way to protect the way of the Tree of Life.

Along the way in this story, something happened to Lucifer that caused him to go astray. His heart was lifted by his beauty. His wisdom became corrupted for the sake of his splendor. He changed and became iniquitous and greedy for power and wanted to be the Most High God. Lucifer was powerful and had a lot of angels under his authority in heaven. Through his wisdom and beauty he became proud and arrogant and by the multitude of his merchandise—'abundance of trade and riches—his heart became filled with violence and he sinned. **Revelation 12** says he became greedy, rebelled and launched a war in heaven and caused one-third of the angels to side with him. He sinned and fell short of the mark. He did not follow the will and commands of God.

**John 8:42**—Christ said to the Jews, "if you were Abraham's children you would do the thing that Abraham did. As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Because you are unable to hear what I say, you belong to your father the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources (consistent with his character), for he is a liar and the father of lies."

Revelation 20:7-10—when the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—to gather them for battle. "In number they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil (and his angels) who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulphur where the beast and false prophet had been thrown." Ezekiel 28:18 —"You have defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of you, it shall devour you, and I will bring you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold you. Never shall you be anymore." The devil is going to be destroyed through the power of Christ.

Hebrews 2:14-18—"For as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil. And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. He himself has suffered being tempted and he is able to succor them that are tempted." Christ through his death qualified to replace the devil and be the king and ruler of this earth made new.

Great events of history are packed into these few verses. **Revelation 12:1**—"there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a *woman* clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars (12 tribes of Israel)." She, being with child cried, travailing in birth and pained to be delivered. Mary, lineage of Judah and King David, gives *birth in Bethlehem to Jesus Christ* the Messiah, Son of God. **Verses 3-4**—"There appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great *red dragon*, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crown upon his heads. And his tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born." Wise Men followed the Star looking for Jesus and asked King Herod if he knew where to find the baby. He told the Wise Men to be sure to let him know the location when they found Jesus. However, when they found Jesus they were warned by an angel of God not to return and tell Herod and went home another way. In the meantime Herod ordered all the Hebrew male children in Bethlehem 2 years old and under to be killed. Joseph and Mary fled with the baby to Egypt as warned by an angel of God. Several years late after the death of Herod, Joseph and Mary returned to Palestine with the Christ child and dwelt in the city of Nazareth where Christ grew up.

**Revelation 12:5**—"the woman "brought forth a male child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne." This was after the death and resurrection of Christ. Christ remained on earth 40 days after his resurrection with appearances to his disciples. Then he ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of God as high priest for his people on earth. This was in 30 A.D. **Revelation 12:6**—"the woman fled into the wilderness, where she had a place prepared of God that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred sixty days. A prophetic day equals a year, so this is for 1,260 years. The woman fled the persecutions of the Roman Empire. In 476 A.D. the Roman Empire

was destroyed. It was restored by the Roman Emperor Justinian in 554 A.D. Count 1,260 years from 554 A.D. and count the seven resurrection of the Roman Empire down through history beginning with Justinian, then Charlemagne, Charles of Austria, Otto the Great of Germany, and finally brings you to Napoleon Bonaparte of France. He was finally defeated and exiled to Elba at the end of these 1260 years in 1814 A.D. (554 A.D. to 1814 A.D = 1,260 years.).

Revelation 12:7—"And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found anymore in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." They will be confined to the earth. This will be the second time and final. Verses 10-11—"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Through Christ's great love he died for us that we might have eternal life. We must be willing to give our life for him. Verse12—"Therefore, rejoice you heavens, and you that dwell in them. Woe to the inhibiters of the earth and of the seal for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has but a short time." Satan rebelled against the Most High God and sinned, and actively led the world into sin and rebellion. The devil is a literal, real being cast to this earth'.

Revelation 12:13-15—"And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child." Israel and the church are the woman he is going to persecute; the one who gave birth to the male child. "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time (3 ½ years) from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the **flood.** And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth." The devil chased the woman and pursued with armies. The armies were swallowed up by the earth.

**Revelation 12:17**—"the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which <u>keep the commandments of God</u> and <u>have the testimony of Jesus Christ</u>." We are headed into terrible persecution. **Revelation 3:8**—"to the angel of the Philadelphia Church: I know your works: I have set before you an open door, and no man can shut it: for you have a little strength, and **have kept my word,** and have **not denied my name**. Because you have **kept the word of my patience**, I also will keep you from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." We are being tested! If we obey God, we are passing the test as long as we endure and persevere.

"Behold I am coming quickly: **hold fast that which you have, that no man take your crown.** He that overcomes, I will make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem which comes down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. He that has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches."

Within the next two years or so I expect Great Tribulation. Time is short, Brethren. Be praying always and be prepared that God will count us faithful to escape and be able stand in glory with the Son of Man when he comes.

Hallelujah! Praise God.