



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Bible Study Outline

Study to show "The Way of True life,"

TOPIC: Our Enemy in the World

TEXT: *Revelation 12:7-12*

Instructions: - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: The little kid standing at my door with a plastic pumpkin bucket was dressed in a bright red suit with red horns, a long-pointed tail and a blow-up pitchfork in his hand. "And who are you?" I asked as I opened the door to pass out the treats. "I'm the devil!" he said with mock glee in his voice. As he jumped off the front step to join his dad on the sidewalk, I thought how nice it would be if the devil were really that harmless.

One major source of evil in our world is the activity of a personal, powerful being who is totally committed to his opposition to God on every issue. The Bible calls that evil being, Satan or the devil. As the apostle John wrote the book of Revelation, he saw a stunning scene unfold before him - a scene of warfare in heaven. Read Rev. 12:7-12.

Discussion Questions

1. Describe your perception of Devil. When have you felt oppressed or attacked by evil? How did you respond to that assault?
2. As you scan through the passage again, do you think this scene took place in the past, that it will take place in the future, or that it is going on right now in the present? What clues from the text lead you to that conclusion?

3. Holy angels ("Michael and his angels") fight against evil angels ("the dragon and his angels") and the evil angels are defeated. What are they fighting over?
4. Five names or descriptions are used for the leader of the evil angels in verse 9. What insight does each name give you about the character of this being?
 - The great dragon;
 - That ancient serpent (see Genesis 3:1-15);
 - The devil (= the slanderer);
 - Satan (= the accuser);
 - Who leads the whole world astray;
5. What role might Satan play in the evil and suffering in the world today?
6. Why doesn't God just eliminate Satan right now? If Satan were eliminated, would evil cease to exist? Why or why not? Discuss.
7. In verse 10 Satan is called "the accuser of our brothers." What insight does that phrase give you into how Satan might be involved in a Christian life?
8. What resources do Christians have at their disposal to overcome Satan's accusations and attacks (v. 11)?
9. What can you do to become stronger in the spiritual battle against Satan? How can you help a Christian friend or family member who is facing spiritual battles?
10. The Bible gives us some practical help for defending ourselves against Satan's assaults. Read the following passages and explain ways that we can apply their instructions to our lives.
 - James 4:7
 - Ephesians 6:10-11
 - 1 Corinthians 10:13
 - 1 John 4:4