

against principalities, against _____, against the _____ of the _____ of this age, against spiritual hosts of _____ in the heavenly places."

NOTE: Christians are not in warfare with other people, but with unseen forces who are seeking constantly to destroy them. The New Testament clearly amplifies what was revealed to Daniel, that there is a great controversy going on between Christ and Satan, a battle being fought for every soul.

27. How can the Christian resist the adversary? Ephesians 6:11-13

"Put on the whole _____ of God."

28. What is this armour? Ephesians 6:14-17.

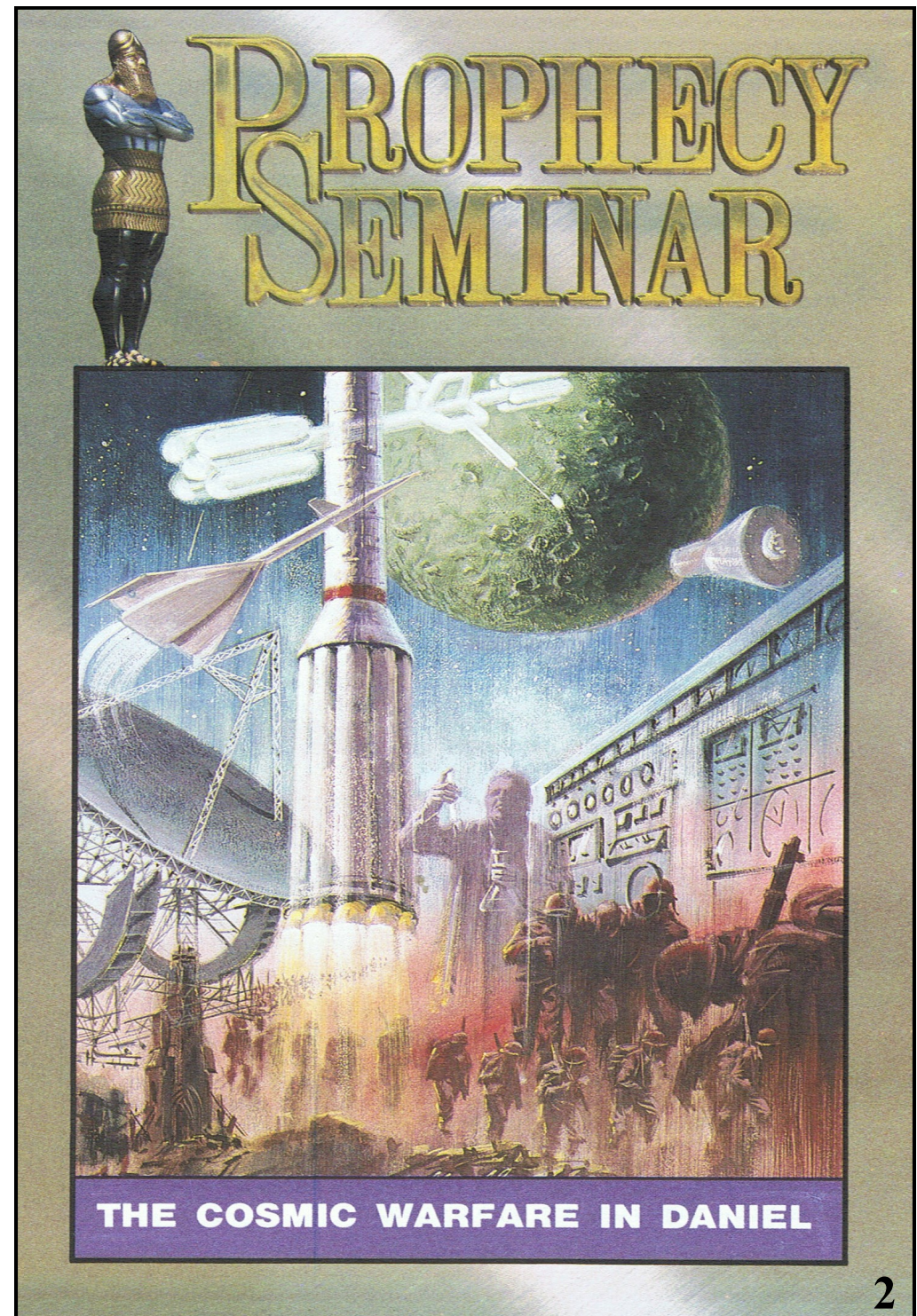
- Having girded your waist with _____.
- The breastplate of _____.
- Having shod your feet with the preparation of the _____.
- The shield of _____.
- The helmet of _____.
- The sword of the Spirit, which is the _____.

NOTE: Our only defence against the wiles of the devil is a firm trust in Jesus Christ, a deep personal relationship with Him, and continual study of His Word. This is the only way to meet the adversary. The central theme of the book of Daniel is the same as the central theme running throughout all Scripture. The book of Daniel reveals that there is a great cosmic conflict between Christ and His angels and Satan and his angels. Behind all the scenes of human history, unseen forces are at work. A battle is being fought for every soul. The book of Daniel can only be understood against the backdrop of this great controversy. The good news of the book of Daniel is that God wins the victory, Satan and his hosts will be defeated, and God's people will be delivered.

29. Do you wish to align yourself with Jesus Christ and triumph with God's people when Christ ends the great controversy?

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Cosmic warfare." It sounds like something coming out of Star Wars. Yet, strange as it may seem, the book of Daniel reveals a cosmic warfare going on behind the scenes. The rise and fall of empires and kingdoms are not simply happenings in world history. All that is taking place is a part of the great controversy between Christ and Satan. The book of Daniel can be correctly understood only when it is seen in the context of this cosmic struggle.

In order to understand any book, one needs to ascertain first of all what is the main theme of the book, what the book is trying to reveal. In this lesson we will draw aside the curtain and see that the central theme of the book of Daniel is this cosmic drama being played in ancient Babylon. What happened there is symbolic of the final great conflict which the prophecies of Daniel point out will take place in the end time. As Lesson 1 revealed, the stories of the book of Daniel dramatize what the prophecies are predicting. What happened to God's people in ancient Babylon is a foretaste of what will happen to God's people in the time of the end. Just as cosmic forces were at work against God's people in the time of ancient Babylon, so in the last days there are cosmic forces at work seeking to destroy those who are faithful to Jesus Christ.

1. As the book of Daniel opens, who appears to be defeated? Daniel 1:1, 2.

King _____ and God's people.

NOTE: The book of Daniel opens with a tremendous defeat for God's people. Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, is delivered into the hands of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon and the people of God are taken into captivity. It appears that the evil Babylonians are winning in the struggle with God's people. In the world today evil often seems to triumph and good seems defeated. Daniel reminds us that the same seemed true in his day, also.

2. What ultimately happens to God's people? Daniel 12:1.

God's people will be _____

NOTE: While the book of Daniel begins in apparent defeat for the people of God, it ends with complete victory for God's people, who will ultimately be delivered. While the book of Daniel reveals a cosmic drama between the forces of good and evil, it reveals that in the end good will triumph and God's people will be victorious.

THE MIGHTY DELIVERER OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

The theme of the book of Daniel is the cosmic struggle between the forces of good and evil. In any warfare, there is a villain and a deliverer. The villain in this instance is Satan; the deliverer is Christ. Just as Christ delivered His people from the cosmic struggle going on in ancient Babylon, so He will be the final great deliverer of God's people in the time of the end. Let us notice how the book of Daniel presents Christ as the mighty deliverer of God's people.

3. After Nebuchadnezzar cast Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the

Lucifer. Lucifer became evil by choice.

19. What did Lucifer attempt to do in heaven? Isaiah 14:13.

"I will _____ into heaven, I will exalt my _____ above the stars of God; I will also _____ on the _____ of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north."

NOTE: Lucifer wanted to sit where God sat. He wanted to rule from where God ruled. He felt he could do a better job of ruling the universe than God could; thus he rebelled against God.

20. As a result of Lucifer's rebellion, what happened to him? Revelation 12:7-9.

Satan was cast _____ the earth.

NOTE: Amazing! War took place in heaven. The rebellion that began with Lucifer finally resulted in his being cast out of heaven.

21. Since Lucifer was cast out of heaven, whom does he seek to deceive? Revelation 12:12.

"Woe to the inhabitants of the _____."

22. How does Satan deceive people? 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.

a. Satan appears as "an _____ of _____."

b. His ministers appear as ministers of _____

NOTE: Satan does not appear as an evil being. He attempts to deceive people by professing to have great light and truth.

23. Can Satan really work miracles or signs? Revelation 16:13, 14.

They are spirits of demons, performing _____."

24. How effective are Satan's deceptions? Mathew 24:24.

To deceive, if _____, even the _____."

NOTE: The deceptions of Satan in the last days will be so convincing that many will be deceived. Our faith cannot rest on miracles, signs or wonders; our faith can safely rest only on the Word of God.

25. With whom does Satan wage war in the last days? Revelation 12:17.

With "the _____, who keep the _____ of God, and have the _____ of Jesus Christ."

26. With whom do God's people have to contend in the battles of life? Ephesians 6:12

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and _____, but

NOTE: Christ is on our side. He is for us, and not against us! He died for us.

13. Is Christ fully God? John 1:1-3, 14.

- a. "The Word was _____
- b. "And the Word became _____ and dwelt among us."

NOTE: Praise God, this One who became man is fully and equally God.

14. Was Christ also man? Hebrews 2:14-18.

- a. "As the children have partaken of _____ and _____ He Himself likewise shared in the _____."
- b. "To be made _____ His brethren."

NOTE: Not only is Christ fully God, but He is also fully man. He is one with us. God's great gift to us is the gift of Jesus Christ, who became man that He might redeem us.

15. Does Christ understand humanity? Hebrews 4:15, 16.

"For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our _____."

NOTE: As a man, Christ fully understands us.

16. How many members are in the Godhead? Matthew 28:19.

Father, _____ and Holy Spirit.

NOTE: The Bible indicates that there are three personal beings in the Godhead - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. While they are three persons, they are one in unity, character and purpose. Since the Godhead is united in its purpose toward man, the Godhead is totally on man's side. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all working for the salvation, redemption and deliverance of the human race.

THE OPPRESSOR OF GOD'S PEOPLE

17. What are the names that Scripture gives to the one who opposes Christ? Isaiah 14:12; Revelation 12:9.

_____, dragon, serpent, Devil, _____

18. Under the symbolism of the King of Tyre, God describes the creation of Lucifer. What kind of being was Lucifer when he was created? Ezekiel 28:12-15.

"You were _____ in your ways from the day you were created."

NOTE: God did not create a bad devil. He created a perfect angel named

fiery furnace, how many people did he see in the fire? Daniel 3:25.

"I see _____ men loose."

NOTE: While Nebuchadnezzar had only three men cast into the fire, he now sees a fourth one walking with the three.

4. Who is this fourth one who walks through the fire with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? Daniel 3:25.

The fourth is like the _____ of God."

NOTE: What revelation of God! As His servants go through the fiery furnace, the Son of God goes through the fire with them. Here is a tremendous picture of Jesus. He comes to deliver His people in the midst of their fiery trials. Jesus is the deliverer of God's people!

5. Describe the one who brings encouragement to Daniel in a later vision. Daniel 10:5, 6.

- a. Clothed in _____.
- b. Girded with _____.
- c. His body was like _____.
- d. His face like the appearance of _____.
- e. His eyes like _____ of _____.
- f. His arms and feet like burnished _____ in colour _____.
- g. The sound of his words like the _____ of a _____.

6. Describe the being who appeared to John the Revelator in the book of Revelation. Revelation 1:13-16.

- a. Clothed with a _____ down to the feet.
- b. Girded about the chest with a _____ band.
- c. His eyes like a _____ of _____.
- d. His feet were like fine _____.
- e. His voice as the sound of many _____.
- f. And His countenance was like the _____ shining in its strength.

NOTE: In comparing the descriptions, it is obvious that Daniel and John the Revelator saw the same person.

7. Who Is this one who appeared to Daniel and John? Revelation 1:13.

The _____ of Man.

NOTE: It is Christ Himself who is pictured as being the Son of man in Daniel and in Revelation. The One pictured as the deliverer, the One who has

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constant communion with His servant in both Old and New Testament times, is none other than Jesus Christ!



WHO IS CHRIST?

Daniel has pictured Christ as the mighty deliverer, the One who appears in the

fiery furnace as well as the One who at times brings him assurance in his visions. Yet Christ was not born until 500 years after the time of Daniel. How can that be? It is essential that we carefully examine the subject of the identity of Jesus Christ before we delve more deeply into our study of the book of Daniel.

8. The Bible predicted the birth of Christ in what place? Micah 5:2.

9. How does the Bible describe the one born in Bethlehem? Micah 5:2.

"Whose goings forth are from of old, from _____."

NOTE: The One born in Bethlehem did not have His origin in Bethlehem. The Scriptures clearly indicate that Christ pre-existed before His birth in Bethlehem. It tells us that He has been going forth from everlasting. If Christ is from there have everlasting, could never been a time when He was not in existence. This text indicates that His "goings forth" are from everlasting; in other words, He has continually gone forth to help His people from everlasting.

We have seen that Christ was active in Daniel's time by appearing in the midst of the fiery furnace with the three Hebrews, as well as appearing to bring encouragement to Daniel in vision. It would be well for us to examine other Old Testament passages illustrating Christ's involvement with His people.

10. Was Christ involved in the Creation? Colossians 1:14-16.

"For by Him all things were _____ that are in heaven and that are on earth."

NOTE: While the Father and the Holy Spirit clearly were involved in creative activity, the Bible also clearly indicates that Jesus Christ was involved in every aspect of creation. All things were created through Him and by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.

11. Who was the Rock that was with the children of Israel as they journeyed out of Egypt and Into the Promised Land? 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

"That Rock was _____."

NOTE: Not only was Christ involved in the creation of the world, but this text reveals that He was the One who led Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. In that capacity, Christ worked with His ancient people. Thus we see that the One who stands for the people of God is none other than Jesus Christ.

12. What did Christ do for us? 1 Corinthians 15:3.

"Christ _____ for our sins."