

THREE CRUCIAL POINTS 1260 YEARS PERSECUTION

THREE CRUCIAL POINTS...

Three facts of utmost importance to God's people are established in Revelation 12:10-12.

These facts are:

- 1. Jesus defeated Satan, the accuser of the brethren, at the cross
- **2.** All of us can overcome through the blood of Jesus and by witnessing.
- **3.** The devil is infuriated because his time is short.

We cannot expect him to behave like a gentleman. He is our bitterest enemy. The message is that Jesus, who has defeated Satan, offers His matchless power to us as a free gift. So, with Jesus' power in our lives we cannot fail. Satan's fury need not affect us.

Always remember the following four points regarding Satan:

- 1. He is a defeated foe.
- 2. He was defeated in the war in heaven and cast out
- **3.** He was defeated by Jesus at the cross and lost his dominion.
- **4.** He will be defeated legally in his case in the judgment and he will again be defeated when he attacks God's holy city.

Finally, he will suffer the defeat of being blotted from the face of the earth in the lake of fire, and, most wonderful of all, Jesus promises that he will be defeated in his bitter, grudge fight to destroy you and me.

What a tremendous message of hope from Jesus!

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1260 YEARS OF PERSECUTION

This period of tribulation is repeatedly mentioned in the Bible because it is the worst ever to face God's people, Matthew 24:21. It is referred to as 1260 days, 42 months, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ times, or years, Revelation 12:6, 14; 13:5; Daniel 7:25. All add up to the same — 1260 prophetic years. The two wings represent speed, Deuteronomy 28:49. This tribulation is called, in Revelation 12:15, a **flood** of persecution. See Isaiah 59:19.

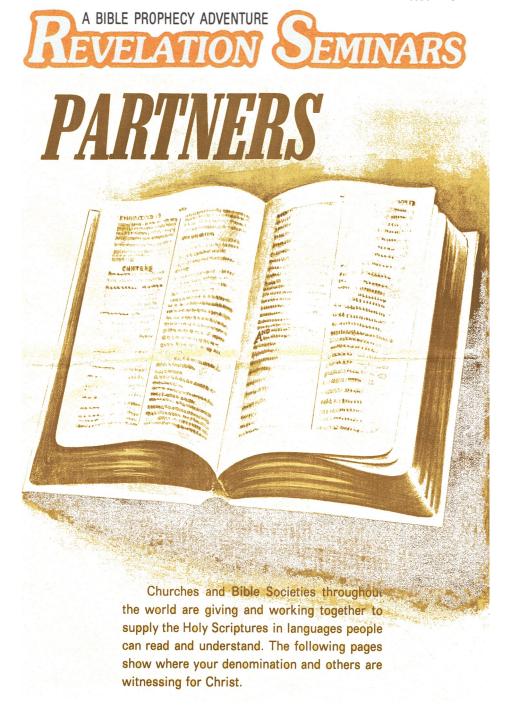
History is clear that the Papacy was the power which persecuted for 1260 years. The period began in 538 A.D. when Papal power became supreme in Christendom due to the letter of Roman emperor Justinian, which acknowledged the Bishop of Rome as the head of all churches. This letter became a part of Justinian's Code, the fundamental law of the empire. The period ended in 1798 when Napoleon's general, Berthier, took the Pope captive. At least 50 million Christians died for their faith during this period of persecution.

- Lord" appeared to him, Judges 13:3-21.
- **c.** The angel who came to Joshua, Zechariah 3:1-10, causes sin to pass away and gives righteousness. Only God can do these things.
- **d.** When the angel appeared to Jacob, Hosea 12:4, he said he had "seen God face to face", Genesis 32:30.
- **e.** The "angel of His presence", "saved" and "redeemed", which only God can do, Isaiah 43:11; cf 44:6.
- **f.** "Mine angel", Exodus 23:23, could pardon transgression which only God can do, Mark 2:7.
- 7. A careful comparison will show that: the "prince of princes", Daniel 8:25; the "prince of the host", Daniel 8:11; "Michael, your prince", Daniel 10:21; Michael, "the great prince", Daniel 12:1; and "Messiah, the prince", Daniel 9:25, all refer to the same being, the Lord Jesus Christ. See also Acts 3:15; 5:31; Revelation 1:5.
- **8.** The being who appeared to Daniel, Daniel 10:5, 6, is obviously Christ because the description of Him is the same as that of Christ in Revelation 1:13-15. This being is also called Michael in Daniel 10:13.

REVELATION SEMINARS

MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL

- 1. Michael, the archangel, is Christ. Note the following evidence:
 - **a.** Jude 9 calls Michael, the archangel.
 - **b.** 1Thessalonians 4:16 says that it is the voice of the archangel that will raise the dead.
 - **c.** John 5:27-29 says that it is Jesus' voice that will raise the dead, so, Jesus is the archangel.
- 2. Michael, the archangel, (Christ) is the second person of the Godhead. The Bible clearly refers to Him as God, John 1:1-3, 10, 14; Titus 1:3, 4; Colossians 2:9; John 5:20; 1Timothy 3:16.
- **3.** Michael, the archangel, (Christ) is not a created being but rather existed from eternity with His father, John 1:1-3, 10, 14; John 6:38; John 17:5, 24; Colossians 1:15-17; Micah 5:2; John 8:58
- 4. Michael, the archangel, (Christ) is apparently the supreme commander or leader of the angelic host (and is thus called the archangel), but serving in this capacity does not detract from His deity or make Him, in any way, a created being. When this "captain of the host of the Lord" appeared to Joshua, THAT JOSHUA WORSHIPPED HIM IS PROOF that this captain of the host was the Lord and not a created angel, Joshua 5:14, 15.
- 5. We know that Christ is not a created angel because angels, as created beings, are not to be worshipped, Colossians 2:18; Revelation 19:10; Revelation 22:8, 9. But angels, themselves, worship Christ, Hebrews 1:6.
- 6. Jesus is called the "angel of the Lord", Exodus 3:2; the "angel of God", Exodus 14:19; the "angel of His presence", Isaiah 63:9; the "messenger of the covenant", Malachi 3:1; and "angel", Exodus 23:20; "mine angel", Exodus 23:23; and "His angel", Daniel 3:28. Let's look further at a few of these references. Please note that repeatedly these passages refer to the angel as the Lord or God:
 - a. The "angel of the Lord" who came to Gideon, Judges 6:11-22, is called the "Lord" in verse 14.
 - b. Manoah said he had "seen God", Judges 13:22, when the "angel of the



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