

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are beginning a new series of studies on The Cosmic Conflict. Today's topic: THE WAR BEHIND ALL WARS.

1. War in Heaven

- a) Revelation 12:7 (first phrase) How was it even possible for war to break out in a perfect environment?
- b) Who led out in this rebellion? Revelation 12:7
- c) What can we learn about this dragon from the following verses in the Book of Revelation? 12:17, 13:4, 16:13-14, 20:1-2
- d) How is this dragon further identified in Revelation 12:9?
- e) When was the fallen angel Satan, also called that “old serpent” and “the dragon”, cast out of heaven?
- f) What does the Bible reveal about the origin of this rebellious angel? Ezekiel 28:12-15, Isaiah 14:12-14
- g) Why didn't God destroy this rebellious angel as soon as iniquity was found in his heart?

2. War strategies

- a) What was Lucifer's war strategy? John 8:44, Revelation 12:4.
- b) God is omnipotent. (Revelation 19:6) That means Satan and the fallen angels were powerless to overcome their Creator. Why did God choose a different strategy than force in this great controversy? John 3:16a, 1 John 4:8
- c) Love always respects freedom of choice. Genesis 2:15-17, Exodus 32:26, Joshua 24:15, 1 Kings 18:20-21

- d) When did you first realize the importance of your personal choices in the battle between good and evil?

3. Conflict on planet earth

- a) When does the focal point of the cosmic conflict between good and evil shift to planet earth? Revelation 12:9-10,12, Genesis 3:1-6
- b) The result of sin is death. (Romans 3:23) What stories in the Bible and even in our world today remind you that sin leads to death?
- c) How does Satan, a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44), seek to increase the devastating results of sin?

4. Hope on the battlefield

- a) Matthew 1:20-23, John 1:29 – Hope comes down
- b) Where do you see the promise of a Savior revealed after our first parents sinned against their Creator? Genesis 3:15, 21, 22:1-8,9-14
- c) What other passages of Scripture remind us that our loving Savior wants to clothe our nakedness and save us? Isaiah 61:10, Zechariah 3:3-4, etc.
- d) When did you first find hope in your Savior?

