

Lesson Nine: Jesus' Victory Over the Devil

Angels and Demons

Goals

1. To understand that Jesus has won the victory over Satan.
2. To appreciate what Jesus' victory means for each one of us.

Introduction

Note the following dates. What is their significance?

- April 12, 1861
- April 6, 1917
- December 8, 1941

When did God declare war on the devil?

Read Genesis 3:15.

Before a sporting event or an international conflict, the sides often boast about how they are going to defeat the opposition. How would you describe God's statement here?

How did God send his Son into battle?

Read Psalm 8:5.

As a Messianic psalm, this passage not only refers to our creation as human beings but also to the coming of Christ. In what way was Jesus made "a little lower than" the angels?

Read John 18:10,11.

Usually enemies will approach each other from a position of power. How did Jesus enter the battle for our salvation?

When did Jesus defeat the devil?

Read John 19:30.

In these final words, Jesus doesn't say, "I am finished." He rather announces, "It is finished." What did he mean by this?

What comfort does this give us as we battle against Satan?

Read 1 Peter 3:19 & Colossians 2:15.

Why did Jesus descend into hell?

How does this prove that he won the war against Satan?

What comfort do we have as soldiers of Christ?

Read Matthew 16:18.

The devil continues to attack God's church. What does Jesus say will never happen?

Read Ephesians 6:11-17.

Discuss the weapons that God gives us to battle against Satan.

On a scale of 0 to 10 (0 = powerless; 10 = all-powerful), rate God's power. Using that same scale, rate our power as human beings, as well as that of Satan.

What warning does this give us as we fight against the devil?

What comfort and confidence do we have knowing that God is on our side?

Read 2 Kings 6:15-17.

Note the invisible army that is also fighting on our side.

Read Revelation 19:11-16.

In the Lord's Prayer, we ask God to "deliver us from evil." When will the Lord answer this prayer once and for all?

Summary

Christ has defeated the devil. But as long as we are in this world, we must be on guard against his evil attacks, for Satan is working hard to take us as his prisoners all over again. He wants nothing more than to lock us up in his prison of hell forever. That's why we stay close to Christ. That is why we study his Word and worship him. For with Christ on our side, we can't lose. We can be sure we will share in the glory of his life and death as we enjoy the eternal blessings of heaven.

During the week

Read the apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians and note the joy Paul experienced as a child of God redeemed from the devil through Jesus Christ.