

WAR – Part I

(Note: I started writing this before the rioting began. Each new current event makes this even more relevant. Our social and cultural problems are spiritual.)

Rev. 12:7 **And there was war in heaven:** Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

Rev. 12:8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

Rev. 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Rev. 12:10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

Rev. 12:11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Rev. 12:12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Rev. 12:13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

Rev 12:14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Rev. 12:15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.

Rev. 12:16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

Rev. 12:17 **And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.**

Rev. 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Matt. 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

No matter what our view of eschatology is, until the finality of the Lake of Fire judgment on the devil and his angels, we are in a war.

1 Jn. 2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that **antichrist** shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

1 Jn. 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of **antichrist**, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Whether “the antichrist” was Nero, one of the popes, a future man yet to arise, or all three is irrelevant for this article. The spirit of antichrist has been working for a long time and is still at work. Spirits don’t die.
We are in a war.

The spirit that controlled Hitler hasn’t gone away. The spirit that controlled Stalin hasn’t gone away. The spirits that have controlled

every tyrant since the beginning of time haven't gone away. The spirits that produced every false doctrine since the early councils of the church of Rome haven't gone away. The demonic spirits that caused the Jews to demand the crucifixion of the Lord haven't gone away. The demonic spirits that drove the persecution of the first century church haven't gone away. **We are in a war.**

War: a state or period of fighting between states or nations -- a state of usually open and declared armed hostile conflict between states or nations. From Merriam-Webster.com

War: a contest or conflict carried on by force of arms, as in a series of battles or campaigns. From Dictionary.com

Wars require at least two combatants. Also, in this spiritual war there is no place called "Sweden." There is no place of neutrality. Neither is there a DMZ (De-Militarized Zone). We may not want to fight, but to win, fight we must.

Wars are fought over Territory, Resources, People, and Liberty. Each of these applies spiritually also. We must face the fact that since Satan is the "god of this world" (2 Cor. 4:4), the church is the invading force and should be the aggressor.

We have the promise that "the gates of hell shall not prevail" against the church. Armed with this promise, let the church charge the gates of hell.

1 Tim. 1:18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare;

That phrase “went on before thee” also translates – lead on. Were these prophecies specific only to Timothy? Could they also be general prophecies to the church? Either way understanding prophetic writings should lead us on into battle.

1 Cor. 14:8 For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?

The opening prophetic scriptures of this writing are trumpeting a certain clear sound.

Let Christian soldiers everywhere hear and prepare themselves to battle.

We are in a war.

TW