

Thank you, Eli Degeneffe ...
...for being our speaker for today!

July Birthdays

19 Sal Contino

"For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil."

Ecclesiastes 12:14

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding."

Proverb 3:5

- *"Fight the good fight"*
- *"Keep the faith"*
- *"Finish the course"*

Revelation: Day Satan Was Cast Out of Heaven

By Dan Jenkins

There may be details in the last book of the Bible that we struggle to understand, but the message of Revelation chapter twelve so vividly describes, in figurative language, the conflict between heaven and hell and the battle between Satan and Christians. That message is so easy to understand. Take time to read this chapter and let God assure you that there is no question we will win the battle.

Verse four depicts Satan (described as a dragon) standing before the woman, who was in labor and ready to give birth to her son, as soon as he was born. Who was this son?

We know who this son is. The next verse tells us that he was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. The Bible leaves no doubt as to the identity of this child. Let God tell you who this son in the second psalm. *"You are My Son, today I have begotten You...Ask of me and I will give You the nations...You shall break them with a rod of iron."* Acts 4:25-27 quotes this psalm and emphatically applies it to Jesus. Jesus is the child born in Revelation twelve whom Satan sought to destroy as soon he was born (Matt. 2).

On The Day of Judgment

By Kevin Cauley

The text says that “...*the Child was caught up to God and His throne*” (v. 5). What happened when He ascended into heaven? In figurative language, there was war in heaven with the armies of Satan fighting the armies of God. Satan was cast down to the earth. He “*no longer*” (v. 8) had access to the presence of God as he did when he brought accusation against Job. Note carefully that this war did not happen before the creation of Adam. It happened when Jesus ascended. When Satan was cast out he tried to destroy the saints—those “...*who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ*” (v. 17). The book of Acts describes this.

How was Satan defeated by the resurrected Jesus? Jesus became a mortal that through His death “...*He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil...and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage*” (Heb. 2:14-15). Jesus destroyed Satan. He did not annihilate him but took from him the fear of death that all men since Adam had struggled with. His open tomb released all mankind from that fearful bondage. Jesus’ life and death brought a revelation of our immortality. “*Now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel*” (2 Tim. 2:10). When John saw Jesus on the island of Patmos, Jesus said, “*I am He who lives, and was dead...and I have the keys of Hades and Death*” (Rev. 1:18). Our Savior destroyed Satan when He took from him the keys to the grave!

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour”.

1 Peter 5:8

All humans will stand before God to be judged one day. Hebrews 9:27 says, “... *it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.*” Hebrews 6:2 lists “*eternal judgment*” among the most fundamental teachings of Christianity. Romans 14:12 declares, “*So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.*” This accounting will involve everything that we have done in our life: “*For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad*” (2 Corinthians 5:10).

The Christian has an advantage on the Day of Judgment: He has Christ Jesus in His corner. All sin, but Jesus is the Christian’s advocate: “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 2:1). While Jesus advocates for the Christian, He will judge the non-Christian. Paul declared in Acts 17:30-31: “*Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.*”

There is a judgment; Jesus is the judge; and His word will be the standard of judgment. In John 12:48, Jesus said, “*He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.*” Learn Christ’s words so that you may be found approved! God bless you and I love you.
