The Spiritual Battle Through The Bible

I. The enemy’s plan to usurp (steal) authority from God

A. God is Spirit, and as Spirit, He created both a spiritual realm and a physical realm: heaven and earth. (Gen. 1:1) Because God is love, He created two kinds of beings to love: angels in heaven and human beings on earth.

B. It seems as though there were three top angels in heaven. (Michael, Gabriel, and Lucifer, who is named in Isa. 14:12) Lucifer became jealous of God, so he devised a plan to steal authority from God. He saw that God had given humans authority over the earth. (Gen. 1:26) He thought if he could deceive Adam and Eve into committing sin, he could control them and take this authority away from them. This way, Lucifer thought he could become as it were, the “god of this world.” (2 Cor. 4:4)

***Ps. 115:16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord’s; But the earth He has given to the children of men.***

C. The moment Adam and Eve sinned, Lucifer went from being a good angel to being a bad angel. Paul calls satan “the god of this world”, which means the ruler of human society that continues to sin.

***2 Cor. 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not.... (KJV)***

***2 Tim. 2:25-26 In humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, 26 and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.***

II. God’s answer to the enemy’s plan – There is a Man coming, born of Adam and Eve’s blood line, one from the human race, and He will face satan down and crush his head and take back the authority God gave to humans. God’s answer is that a Savior is coming, and satan doesn’t know when He’s coming!

***Gen. 3:15 ...her Seed;*** (talking about Jesus) ***He shall crush your head, And you shall bruise His heel.***

***Rom 16:19 ... And the God of peace will crush satan under your feet shortly.***

III. Satan tries to stop the coming of the Savior. All he knows it’s going to be a male. Who?

 A. Cain? Abel?

 B. Abraham? Isaac? Jacob?

 C. Then, God says the Savior will come from the lineage of Judah.

 D. Pharaoh tries to kill all Hebrew male children in Egypt.

E. Four hundred years later, at the beginning of the New Testament: the wise men give a prophecy that the Savior has just been born. Satan still doesn’t know who the Savior is or where He is. The book of Micah says the Savior will come from Bethlehem. So, satan convinces King Herod to have all the male babies killed who were born in Bethlehem. Then an angel appears to Joseph in a dream and tells him to take Mary and Jesus out of Bethlehem, so Herod’s murderous order fails to kill the Savior.

F. Thirty years later, John the Baptist comes on the scene and announces that the Savior is coming. He baptizes Jesus in the Jordan river and a voice from heaven declares “this is My beloved Son”, and then John says “behold, the Lamb of God”. (Mt. 3:3, Mt. 17:5, Jn. 1:29) Immediately, satan tries to get Jesus to sin, tempting Him in the wilderness, but He refused.

G. Approximately three and half years later, Jesus allows Himself to be killed. We know Jesus allowed it, as a part of God’s plan, because moments before His arrest, the troop that arrested Him fell to the ground when He said “I am He.” (Jn 18:5)

V. Jesus is raised from the dead, and He gives the Great Commission to His disciples. (Mt. 28:18) For two thousand years since then, the gospel of the Kingdom has gone forth and billions have come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

VI. Four responses today:

1. Choose to resist sin, realizing that sin allows satan to steal authority from us.

2. Put on the armor of God. (Eph 6:12) To “put on the armor” means we invite God’s presence related to protection from evil.

3. Do your part to spread the gospel and invite unbelievers to church. Mt. 24:14

4. If you haven’t already, begin a real relationship with Jesus today.