

11. Considering there are demonic forces that can harm us, how can we overcome the snares of Satan? Revelation 12:11.

"And they overcame themof the Lamb."

- ✓ There is power in Jesus and His redeeming blood. He wishes to set us free from all the evil influences of the mysterious forces of evil. But there is a condition, we need to surrender to God with our whole heart and confess Him our sins. In John 1:12, we read, "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name." You must accept Jesus today, as your Saviour and Lord, that is to say as the Lord of your life and then you have nothing to fear. He overcame Satan on the cross and will defend those who are His. His victory is ours.

12. Which is the Bible form so that Satan will flee from us? James 4:7

"....., therefore to God;.....and he will flee from you"

How can we submit to God?

- ✓ If we keep His commandments. Are they very hard to keep? No, in 1 John 5:3 we read: "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." But not everyone can keep them; "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God." (Romans 8:8). Only those who are spiritual, who cling to Jesus and are guided by God's Spirit can obey the commandments. These are never alone. Jesus is always with them. Paul said: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philipppians 4:13.
- ✓ "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." said Joshua and he then added: "for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15). Our well-being upon this earth and our eternal life depend on this decision. Either we serve sin and evil or we serve Jesus, we are His beloved children, saved by His redeeming blood and we become heirs of His glory.

Whom have you decided to serve?



Name:

Address:

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Topic 7

The Dragon is revealed in



All along this fascinating book, we see a frontal war between good and evil, between Christ and His archenemy, Satan. His plan was always to persecute and destroy God's people. From the beginning, he sowed suffering, misery and death. But God is love and He says to us: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 2. Then, why is there so much suffering? Why so much violence, disappointment and deceit in our times? Without a doubt, it has to do with this enemy who wants to destroy us. How can we get to know his snares? How can we be free from his claws and from his dark influence? Which is the Biblical form, which places us under the sure protection of our God? Jesus is the great victor and in His word He reveals to us how to triumph.

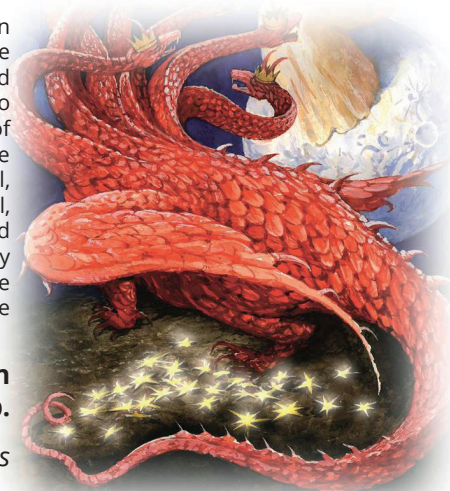
1. Which are the five names with which He is described in Revelation 12:9-10?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

- ✓ The book of Revelation mentions Satan 55 times. In the same way that Jesus' virtues are revealed by the names He has, the devil's wicked work is revealed in the Bible through different adjectives. He is also presented in a symbolic way by the wicked king of Tyre. There, we are told that God did not create the devil as we know him today, but as a perfect angel, (Ezekiel 28:13- 15). Then, we are told how that angel, Lucifer, gradually became perverted, until it turned into an evil angel, the Devil. The envy and jealousy which arose in his heart against the Creator, made of him the author of evil, the father of lie and the author of so much suffering. (Isaiah 14:12-14).

2. How many angels were led by this rebellion and became evil spirits? Revelation 12:4 p.p.

"And his tail drew of the stars of heaven."



3. What did God finally have to do with Satan and his angels? Revelation 12:7-9.

- ✓ After God called Satan many times to reflect and repent, He had to cast him away from heaven together with his angels. Thus, the conflict was transferred to the planet earth. Our Creator warned our fore-parents about the presence of a deceiver, but He created man free to take decisions about whom he would serve. The Biblical report shows us how man was deceived and chose to follow the impulses suggested by the tempter and eat from the forbidden tree instead of obeying his Creator. (2 Corinthians 11:3). Thus, man lost the four precious gifts he received from God: 1° Life, 2° a righteous character, 3° dominium over everything, 4° a wonderful home, Eden.

4. What did man turn into and which were the consequences? 2 Peter 2:19; Romans 6:16.

*"for of whom a man is overcome brought in bondage."
 "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are?"*

- ✓ Thus did man become slave of sin and death. Now we have sin in our genes and death in our nature. That is our inheritance; we are born with a deformed character. Sickness and death are its consequences. That's is why there is so much suffering. We are sinners by nature and action. David says, *"Behold, I was shapened in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me."* (Psalms 51:5). Paul says: *"For I know that in me that is, in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."* (Romans 7:18).

5. Who is considered "the second Adam" for having overcome Satan? Romans 5:12, 14-21; 1 Corinthians 15:22.

6. What exclamations are heard after the report is given that Satan has been cast out from heaven? Revelation 12:10, 12.

*"Now is come, and, and
 of our God, and the power of his Christ of our
 brethren"*

*"Therefore, rejoice Woe to the inhabitants
 of the earth and of the seas!"*

7. What means does Satan use to deceive mankind? Revelation 16:13-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:9.

a) *The spirits of devils*

b) *Unto the kings of the earth to gather them.....*

- ✓ The book of Revelation clearly explains that at the end of times, Satan will act making use of many supernatural manifestations, signs and miracles in order to deceive the world. He will do this through the Anti-Christ (Revelation 13:2, 13-14), the beast and the image of the beast, a topic we shall soon study. Jesus warned that Satan's deceit will be so subtle that *"if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."* (Matthew 24:24). False religious movements will make great supernatural manifestation which will be very similar to God's, but they are not His. They are meant to distract men from the work of the preparation that is needed before Jesus' coming.

8. What will Satan and his servants be transformed into? 2 Corinthians 11:13-15.

*"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves
 Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself
"*

9. Against who or what will Satan turn through his agents? Revelation 12:17.

*"And the dragon was wrath with the woman which
 keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."*

- ✓ When God created man, He gave him a law so that through his obedience he could show his loyalty to his Creator. Satan led our fore-parents to transgress the law. The prophecy says that the dragon -Satan- will turn against the woman that symbolizes the church of God and especially against *"the remnant of her seed"*, that is to say the few faithful believers who will live in the last years. Then, so that we can identify that remnant, it says that they are those who *"keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."* This is their identity.

10. What are the two things by which the true worshipers of God can be identified according to Revelation 14:12?

*"Here is the patience of the saints, here are they that keep of
 God, and of Jesus."*

- ✓ God's law is eternal as God Himself. It is the reflection of His character; that is why God's real people must keep each commandment.
- a) The Bible calls liars those who say that they know Him - consider themselves religious people- but do not keep His commandments. (1 John 2:3-6).
- b) It also says that he who transgresses one of the commandments is guilty as if he had transgressed all of them,
- c) And that we shall be judged by that law. (James 2:10-12).
- d) That Jesus did not come to abolish it but that it will be valid while the heaven and earth exist. (Matthew 5:17-18).
- e) It is true that we are not justified by the law, but it makes us aware of sin (Romans 3:20).
- f) Hebrews 5:8- 9 says that Jesus learnt obedience and was made perfect by it, therefore he became the author of eternal salvation to all those who obey Him.
- g) God promises prosperity and peace to all who keep His law and to their children (Deuteronomy 5:29; Psalms 119:165).
- ✓ Satan's hate against God's law is such that he tried to falsify the Ten Commandments. If you wish to know the real commandments, look for them in the Bible, in Exodus 20:2- 17. Compare them with those written in the Catechism and look for the differences the difference.

