

Message Notes:

Series: How close are we to the end?

Message: Checkmate!

Passage Rev 12

Intro:

You have an enemy. The devil hates you-passionately-completely-there is not one good thing he wants for you-He is out to destroy you- to stop you- to hinder you- to take you into moral compromise-to render you ineffective for Christ. He is relentless. He may be quiet for a while but he is still at work even when he is silent.

2 Cor. 11: 14

But in 2 Thess. 2: 6-8 there comes a day when God takes his restrainer out of the way and the devil is off the leach.

Rev. 12: 1:

The scene shifts from c_____ to a mighty c_____

Sign=semeion=a m_____ or s_____

The devil uses three main strategies to try to defeat you:

S_____

A_____

R_____

In this new vision that appears there are five main characters or groups of characters:

*A w_____

*R_____ d_____ v. 3

*12: 6 elect remnant of I_____ during the Tribulation.

Rev 12: 7-12 and chapter 13 introduces us to the unholy trinity: the d_____, the b_____ and the false p_____.

Rev 12 presents two great conflicts which are closely related.

In the first, there is a clash between satan and the archangel Michael.

Rev 12: 10-12

These verses deal with the catching up of the saints into heaven and the casting down of the devil to earth at the beginning of the Tribulation.

The church awaits returning to earth with Jesus at His Second Coming.

Satan knows now that his time is short on earth and he goes all out in hate and fury, releasing his rage to inflict as much damage as possible in the time remaining.

Rev 12: 13-17

When satan is cast out of heaven two significant things occur:

One: He will no longer be able to gain an audience with God to accuse the Saints.

Two: The horrors of evil explode in intensity.

Even though Israel is disobedient, God has not forgotten His people.

Romans 11: 1

God doesn't prevent the devil from attacking but He always makes a way through the battle.

SMALL GROUP LESSON

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LOOK BACK:

Week One Look Back: What is your greatest battle you deal with the devil about in your life?

Week Two: Look Back: What works for you in overcoming the devil's attacks?

LOOK UP:

One: Talk about a time when the enemy came against you full force and how God came through for you.

Two: What are our weapons for fighting the seductions, lies and whispers of the enemy?

Three: How does judgment without a view to reconciliation, accusations made to others about a person not present and gossip play into the schemes of the enemy?

Week Two Questions:

One: What evidence do you see of the devil's work in people today- big and small?

Two: Beyond prayer, what do you do each morning before you face the battles of the day so that a win is in in your column by the close of your day?

Three: What is the value of having a mentor in your life who can point out unseen weaknesses so that the enemy does not gain a foothold in your life?

LOOK FORWARD:

Week One Look Forward: What will you do this week to shore up your personal defenses against what the devil has already planned for your harm?

Week Two: Look Forward: Who will you invite into a mentoring relationship to mentor you and for you to mentor another: _____?