

WARS & VICTORY

WHY? WHERE? WHEN? HOW LONG?

You will not have to look very far into the Holy Bible to find out **WHEN** wars began in the wonderful world God had created for mankind. We discover that there is a worldwide, unseen power struggle raging against God's rule and command.

In the first book of the Holy Bible - Genesis - we read of Eve, followed by her husband Adam, **choosing** to trust and obey the Devil *instead of their Creator God!* This was **WHEN**, and **WHY**, rebellion and WAR on this earth began; and it continues today – a spiritual war, with the Devil opposing the plan and will of God, the Creator of Heaven and earth! (Ephesians 6:12.)

Adam and Eve rightly deserved to be rejected and destroyed by the Holy and Almighty God. But, when they were willing to acknowledge that they deserved DEATH, they discovered God had provided the way they could escape the death penalty – **God provided innocent substitutes to die for them!** (Genesis 3:17-21.)

They accepted the animal-skin clothes God offered to them; they would be a constant reminder of that awful consequence of their sin – the death of the innocent substitute! "The wages of sin is death!" (Romans 6:23.)

*Every one of us has rebelled against Holy God and deserve His judgment! God sent His Son into this world in human form – born of a woman like every one of us – BUT HE WAS WITHOUT SIN, although He had inherited a sin-cursed human body by coming into this world through being born of a human mother. That is why He was subject to pain, suffering, temptation and even death! He came to be the sinless Substitute that would pay by His death **for all our sins**, and satisfy the divine wrath we deserved from God! Now, all we have to do to be acceptable before God is admit our rebellion against God, and trust that the awful death of the innocent Jesus Christ as our Substitute completely satisfied God wrath against us. The resurrection of Jesus from death proves He can be our Saviour, and the One who can keep us from continuing in sin.*

Adam and Eve's sinful nature was very evidently carried on into their family. Their very first two children were Cain and Abel. Abel chose to do things God's way, but Cain hated him for that, and showed his rebellion against God. Cain murdered his own brother Abel! (Genesis 4:1-14.)

*If **you** choose to trust Jesus as **your Saviour**, and want to live to obey God, you will be opposed! Be warned! The Devil uses **self-righteous**, **religious** people to carry on his war against those who trust and obey God!*

As the world population increased, so did fighting, evil thoughts, and all kinds of wickedness, persecution and murder of Christians and Jews! – the Devil's war against any who would trust the God of the Holy Bible!

When wickedness increased, and people did not repent and turn from their evil ways, God intervened and wiped-out men, women, children, and even the animals, in a world-wide flood that covered all the earth. The evidence of this catastrophic judgment is clearly seen today in the many millions of flood-formed fossils found all over the world. Only Noah and his family responded to God, *and obeyed His word to them*, and they were kept safe in the wonderful ark God designed, and Noah built.

*And God promises to keep safe **for Heaven** those who trust in the Saviour God provided, and who want to obey Him. "The Father sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world."* (1 John 4:14. Romans 3:21-26.)

After the great flood, when Noah's family began to re-populate the earth, wickedness and rebellion against God flared up again – the WAR was still ongoing between the Devil and God!

One man whom God found ready and willing to obey **Him** was Abram (later renamed Abraham). God made a covenant with him – Abraham's family would be a blessing to the world, and they would possess a country which God called "His country" – the Land of Israel! Abraham's family are the Jews, and "Israel" is the Land God promised to them. (Exodus 32:13.)

Abraham had a son, Ishmael (father of the Arab nations), born to his slave-woman, Hagar. (Genesis 16:11-13.) Ishmael hated and despised Abraham's "God-promised" son, Isaac, (the father of the nation of Israel. see Genesis 35:9-13.) The Devil is keeping this WAR going on today, determined not to allow God's promise to the Israelites, through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to ever succeed! Down through the ages the Devil has used many forces to try to prevent God's promise being fulfilled in Israel. **Pharaoh** in Egypt tried to kill *every baby boy born to the Israelites* (Exodus 1:15-22.); **Haman** in the days of Queen Esther planned to exterminate all Jews (Esther 3:5-6.); and **Hitler** in the 2nd world war wanted all Jews to be killed. There were many others who have wanted the Jews out of the land God promised them – and to exterminate them "from the river to the sea"! Today it's **Hamas**, and the many supporting nations, who continue the war against God's people Israel saying, "let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more!" (A prophecy made 3,000 years ago! See Psalm 83:1-4.) *BUT God will keep His covenant with Abraham, and will give the Jewish people back "His land" of Israel. God "laughs" at the agents of the Devil thinking they can overthrow His plans!* (Psalm 2.)

God tells us in the Holy Bible that the nations who scattered His people "Israel", and who divided up God's land, will assemble at Armageddon in Israel intending to finally wipe them off the face of the earth! *But, at that time, "the LORD will go out and fight against those nations" and there will be a **great victory** for God's people against their enemies!* (Joel 3:1-2. Zechariah 14:2-5.)

It seems that the world is getting ready for that to happen!

*Meanwhile, the Devil has plans to destroy **your** life, and to keep God from rescuing you! The Apostle Paul knew all about the "WAR" that was trying to destroy his life. Listen to the victorious discovery he made – "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? **Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!**"* (Romans 7: 24-25.)

**VICTORY over evil and sin is by faith in Jesus Christ as your SAVIOUR, sent to you by God!
No one can, or will, take His place!**

Only Jesus can save **you** from the wrath of Holy God, because He alone could take the curse and punishment for your sins! When the Devil thought he had finally defeated God's plans by having the Messiah Christ Jesus put to death, **God raised Jesus from the dead** and overcame the Devil's hopes! Only the resurrected Jesus can save and keep you from certain defeat and destruction, and He can promise you a glorious eternal inheritance in **The Promised Land** of Heaven! Faith in the blood of Jesus Christ – His sacrifice – “purifies us from all sin.” Is YOUR faith in the victory of Jesus over death? **TRUST JESUS CHRIST NOW AS YOUR PRIEST AND SAVIOUR!!**

READ 1 Peter 1:3-9. You can share in CHRIST'S VICTORY!

For all you need to know about the Good News of Jesus

READ THE HOLY BIBLE!

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