Josephus, Flavius Translated by William Whiston, The Works of Josephus, Hendrickson Publishers Peabody, MA 01916-3473, 1987, Pg. 35

Antiquities of the Jews Chapter 4:2)

Heiser, Michael "Unseen Realm", 2015 Lexham Press

Holy Bible, New English Version

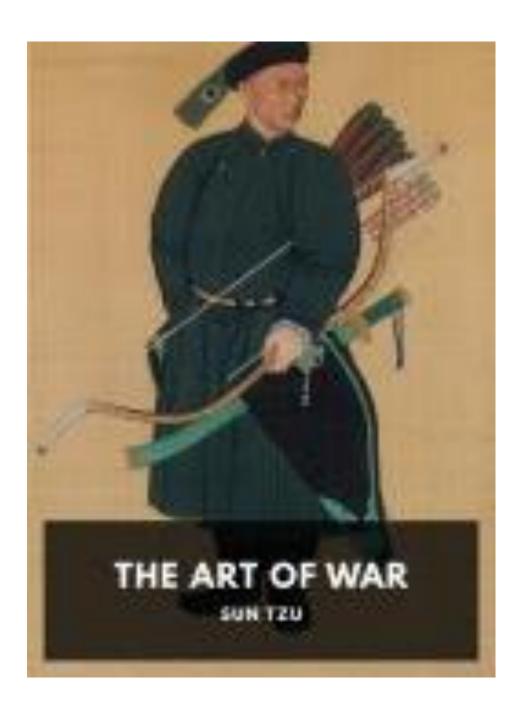


Spiritual Warfare-Ephesians 6:12 We do not Wrestle against flesh and blood but.....

Wrestling Is A Contact Sport

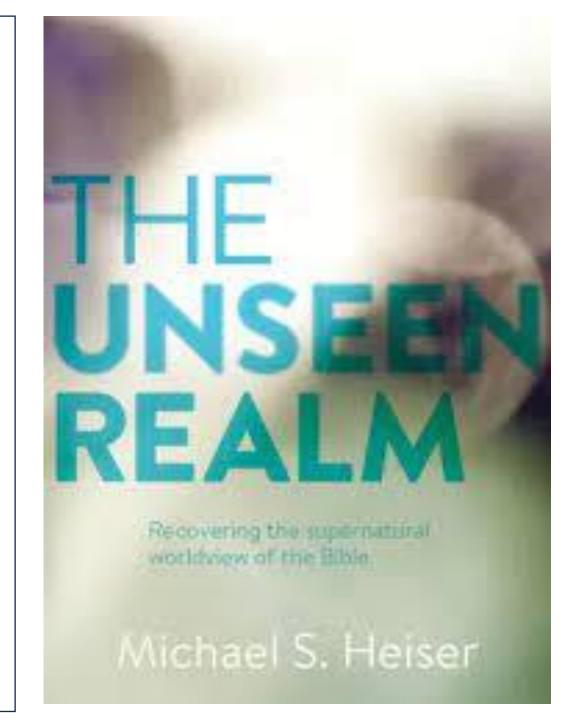
Spiritual Warfare-Ephesians 6:12

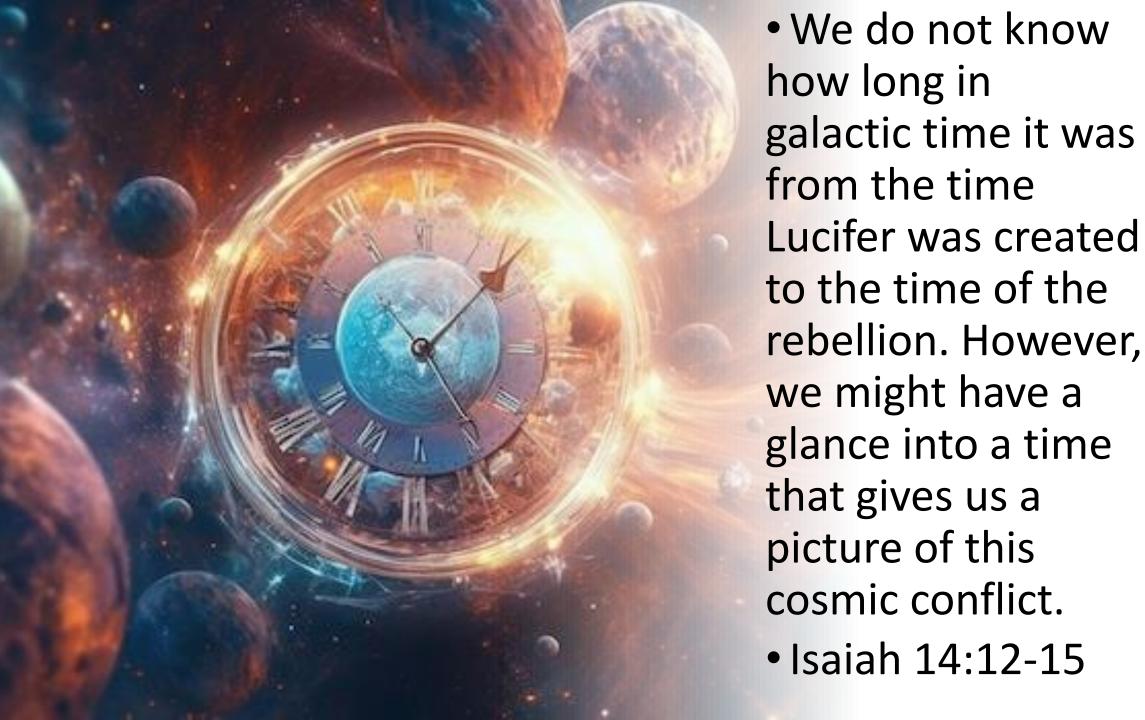
- In his book "The Art of War", Sun Tzu writes;
- Know Your Enemy, Know Yourself, Know neither and you will fall.
- The Art of War was written, but most scholars think it was written between 475 and 221 B.C.E.,
- Still used at the War College and West Point.



The Art of War tells us to know our enemy. If we had a biblical FBI Most Wanted List, Satan would be the cosmic public enemy number one, the chief opponent of God and his people, and the leader of an unimageable demonic force. But I would ask, "What caused a created being to become so angry with the Creator that this created one would oppose and rebel against all that is in Heaven and on The Mountain of God. This created one had it all. WHAT HAPPENED? **WHY DID IT HAPPEN?**

There are few Church leaders who really get it. On page 74 of the "Unseen Realm", Dr. Michael Heiser, Historian, Old Testament Scholar, and Theologian gave the most defining reason for this **Creator-Created** galactic conflict.





Read Ezekial 28:11-15 and Job 38:7

You are to select several phrases that can only be describing an angelic being and NOT a human form.

EX. 28:13You were in Eden, the garden of God. Or

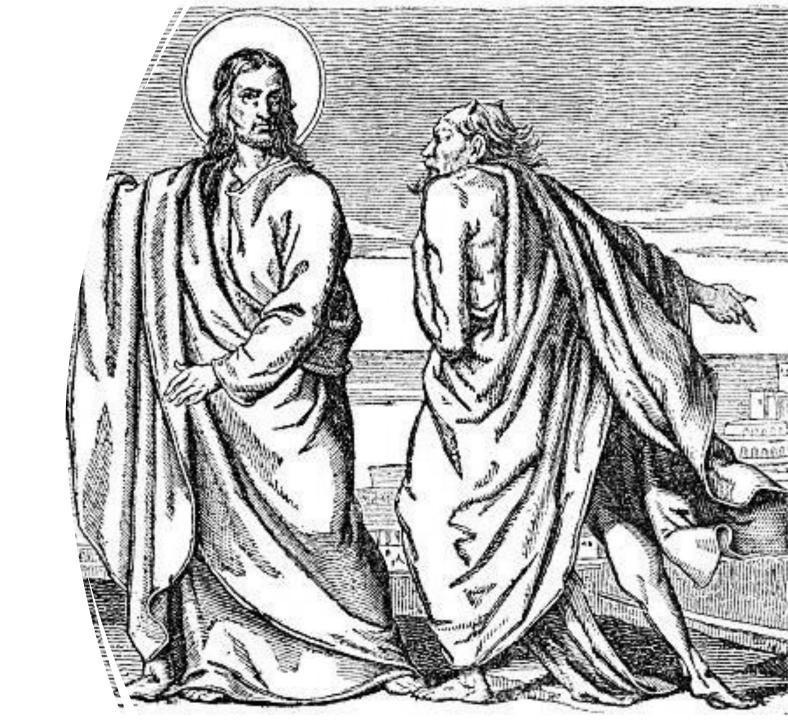
28:14 You were an anointed guardian cherub. Hêlêl ("shining one") *I think the story of Lucifer is to be believed!* We must accept the possibility that pieces might be missing from the story. If we, man, who has not directly interacted with God, at this point in time, can understand that God is the ultimate power, why then would an archangel, who is above us in every way (intelligence, knowledge), and has personally interacted with God, why would he attempt to defeat God? Even Lucifer's goal was not to defeat God, he would know that God could undo him instantly. If man understands the foolishness of defying God, an Archangel surely understands this as well. There must be a reason why he did this.

The world you and I experience was and is created by an all-powerful God. Humankind is His created representatives; (imager)we are lower than the angelic realm. Eden was God's abode (mountain of God or Garden of God). Accompanying God in that Garden was a supernatural host of Angelic beings one is a Guardian **<u>Cherub.</u>** Ezekiel gives us a very clear picture of this cherub called Lucifer. This member of God's divine council was not pleased by God's decision to Create humanity and to give them (us) dominion over this new, fresh Creation. Here the conflict began! (ie page 74)

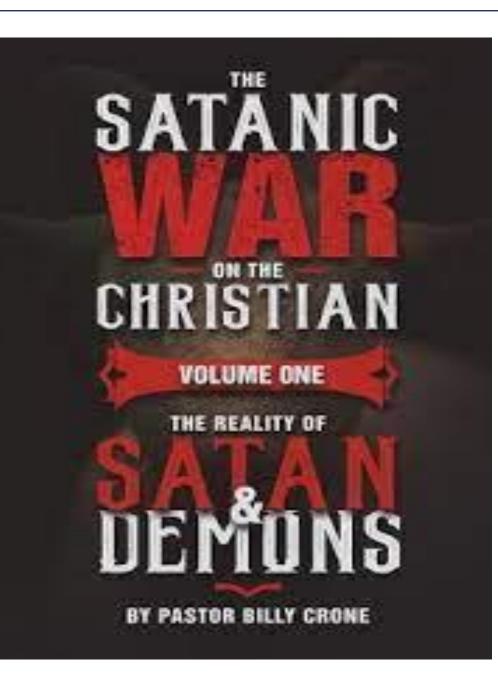
Humanity was weak, frail, and needed watching over by these messenger-watchers (Daniel 2). Created in God's image did not stop Lucifer's negative attitude for this assignment. Lucifer was too high above mankind to be bothered. All this led to how humanity got into the mess we are in, today. An Israelite would have known this describes interference in God's plan by a being from His divine council. A created being, rejecting the assignment and desiring to rise above the Creator's decision, would be a rebellion.

This adds a new layer to this developing issue. Many theologians believe that in their pre-fallen state the angels were given a foreknowledge of humans, who would be inferior to them, as well as a foreknowledge that God himself the second Person of the Trinity, would be **incarnated as a man** and redeem the universe through his death on the cross. If Adam and Eve fell so easily, then God in human form, might be that easy to deceive and fall. The dye was cast. Mankind became the enemy of Lucifer and there was no turning back. Isaiah 14:12-14 tells the rest.

Matthew 4:1-11



Because of Lucifer's rebellion, his name was changed to Satan, meaning "adversary." His followers, fallen angels, became known as demons.



Satan no longer believes he can win. Once Jesus successfully remained perfect while here on earth, Satan lost the war that was raging between him and God. All of Satan's lies and claims were proven false. From the moment he was ousted out of heaven Satan knew his chance for victory was over. He now knows his remaining time is short.

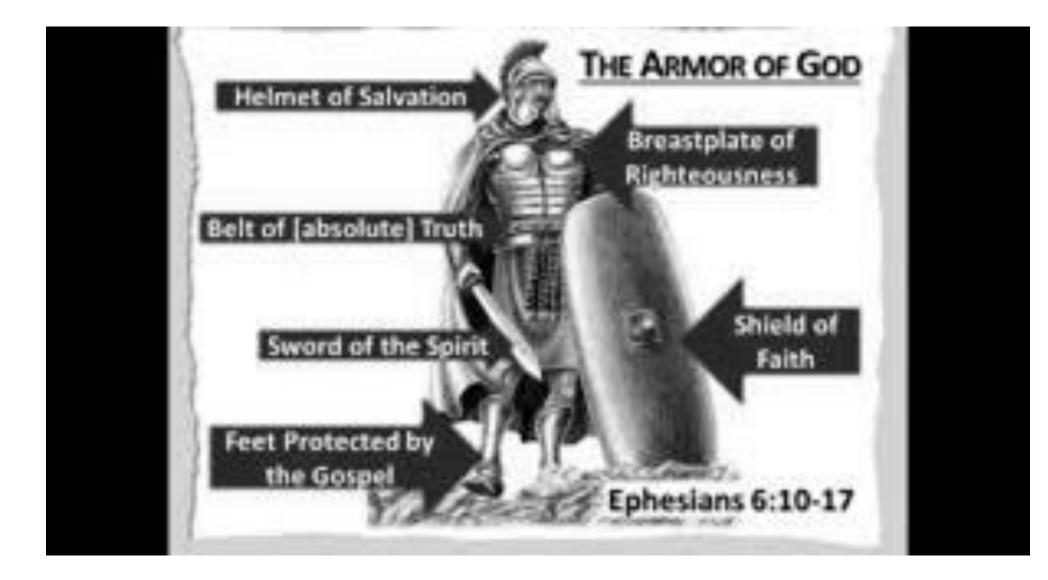
What is he to do to "hurt" God before that time?

On this account be glad, oh heavens, and you who reside in them! Woe for the earth and for to sea, because the Devil has come down to you, having great anger, **knowing** that **he has a sho period of time**." (Rev 12:12)

If God has defeated Satan, why is Satan still such an enemy to Christians. "He has the world just leave me alone." Christians, by the power of the Holy Spirit, are all that stands between Satan, our neighbors, lost friends, and or lost family members.

We have been called to Stand in the Gap, meaning, we are Wrestlers in this cosmic battle. If we fail, who will tell my neighbors, friends, family, that heaven and hell are real and will come to past in due time. Here is where worldly persecutions starts.





• When the Bible says Satan has power over the world, we must remember that God has given him domain over unbelievers only. Believers are no longer under the rule of Satan (Colossians 1:13). Unbelievers, on the other hand, are caught "in the snare of the devil" (2<u>Timothy 2:26</u>), lie in the "power of the evil one" (<u>1 John 5:19</u>), and are in bondage to Satan (Ephesians 2:2).

THE GOD OF PEACE WILL SOON CRUSH SATAN **UNDER YOUR FEET. THE** GRACE OF OUR LORD **JESUS CHRIST BE WITH** YOU. - ROMANS 16:20

• So, when the Bible says that Satan is the "god of this world," it is not saying that he has ultimate authority. It is conveying the idea that Satan rules over the unbelieving world in a specific way. In <u>2 Corinthians</u> <u>4:4</u>, the unbeliever follows Satan's agenda: "The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ." Satan's scheme includes <u>promoting</u> false philosophies in the world—philosophies that blind the unbeliever to the truth of the Gospel. Satan's philosophies are the fortresses in which people are imprisoned, and they must be set free by Christ.

Ephesians 6: 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. ¹³ For this reason, take up the full armor of God so that you may be able to stand your ground on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand.

A Fight to the Finish God is strong, and he wants you strong. So, take everything the Jesus has set out for you, well-made weapons of the best materials. And put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Satan throws your way. This is no weekend war that you will forget about in a couple of hours. Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an *indispensable* weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.