

**GROWING IN GRACE LETTERS!** – Calling saints in Christ, (in our homes and with one another in Church), to walk in the Steps of Jesus! (1 Peter 2:15-25) Edited by James Bell, a servant of Jesus Christ!

12 16 25 V1n32 - THE CONFLICT OF THE AGES! THE NUMBER ONE WORLDWIDE RAGING WAR!

DO YOU REALIZE THAT THERE IS A SUPER SERIOUS, RAGING, WORLDWIDE WAR going on? —

It is the Conflict of the ages; and it is the root of all other wars! This WAR is REVEALED FROM

Genesis THROUGH the Revelation!

**GENESIS 3:15**, sets forth **the beginning of the FIRST and foremost WORLD WAR** — FROM WHICH ALL OTHER WARS have sprung! IT IS the greatest and longest war! And THE LAST BOOK OF THE BIBLE, sets forth the END of this greatest war! — **From Genesis through the Revelation there is a divine unveiling of the conflict and the ultimate triumph of “the seed of the woman” over satan! This ‘WAR of all WARS’ is announced THIS WAY:** “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” **[One translation says, “THERE WILL BE WAR!”]**

**[1] SO IT IS THAT, in Genesis 3:15 — The War of the Ages is Announced. This war** has spanned AND WILL SPAN all of human history. **This war** is still going on today, for satan still

hates Jesus and His followers! And the good soldiers of Christ are still SEEKING TO WIN the lost from self, sin, and satan! **THIS WAR of WARS is the root of all other wars!**

**[THE FIRST REBELLION** in the universe was when Lucifer rebelled, Isaiah 14:12-15. IN THE PROCESS OF TIME, in the Garden of Eden, Lucifer, (now satan, the devil) entered the picture, as recorded in Genesis 3.] **AND IN HIS OWN REBELLION and in the rebellion with which satan tempted Adam and Eve — WHAT DO WE LEARN?** NAMELY, that the root expression of all sin is lust/greed/pride and a deep refusal to walk in FAITH SUBMISSION to the True and Living GOD! In other words, SIN IS HATRED OF THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD; and the natural 'SET' of every fallen human heart is HATRED OF GOD! (Romans 8:7— "The carnal mind is ENMITY against God!" "The interests of the flesh are hostile to God." "THE FLESHLY MIND HATES GOD!" THUS: HUMAN HISTORY, UNVEILS, (ABOVE ALL ELSE in THE WAR OF WARS) — satanic hatred against MESSIAH and His people! **Thus, from Genesis 3:15 onward, there were many attempts to stop MESSIAH before He came!** AS EARLIER STATED,

**[1] THE WAR was announced: Genesis 3:15 — ... going forward,**

**[2] Genesis 6:9, 12 — From Seth to the Flood: The Messiah was prophesied to come through Seth's line.** However, the whole human race was wallowing in sin and about to face just

judgment— literally, extinction. **BUT Noah found grace in the eyes of God!**

**The sovereign God of the universe GAVE HIM GRACE. "The grace NOAH found was not on account of his own merit, but on account of the mercy of God!** But the main POINT is that by the time of Noah, sin and rebellion was so strong and wide-spread that it APPEARED that the PROMISED MESSIAH would never come; **for (Genesis 4:25 - 7) the Messiah was prophesied to come through Seth's line.** However, as the whole human race was wallowing in gross rebellion and sin and was destroyed by the flood in Noah's day — **EXCEPT, Noah found grace in the eyes of God!**

**[3] Genesis 12-25 — From ABRAHAM to Jacob:** Messiah was to come through Abraham. **HOWEVER**, he was old and his wife, Sarai, was barren. Nevertheless, Isaac was born. **However**, Isaac's wife was also barren; **but God** performed yet another miracle **so that** the promised Messiah could come through the line of Jacob.

**[4] Genesis 27 - Exodus 32— From Jacob to Israel in the Wilderness:** Esau wanted to kill Jacob. Later, Pharaoh sought to destroy Israel and Moses. Afterwards, Israel sinned so greatly that God was poised to destroy them in righteous judgment. **HOWEVER, Moses INTERCEEDED on their behalf! NOTE: In the midst of all this conflict, it is good to remember, that at no point did God provide mercy at the expense of**

**Holiness!** FOR EXAMPLE: IN THE DAYS OF MOSES, When God sent the Death Angel into Egypt, Israel was also deserving of death! **Thus, a substitutionary sacrifice, had to be slain.**

[5] I Samuel 18-19— From Israel in the Wilderness to King David: God chose one man out of the tribe of Judah through whom Messiah would come. However, more than once Saul endeavored to kill that chosen one, David.

[6] II Kings 11— From David to Jezebel's daughter, Queen Athaliah: Athaliah thought she had been successful in killing all of the royal seed. **However, Joash,** (The sole survivor of David's royal seed!), was hidden for six years; and at age seven, he began to reign!

[7] Isaiah 7— From Queen Athaliah to King Ahaz: Wicked ones sought to blot out the house of David and set up a foreign king. But in those days Isaiah stood up and prophesied, ***"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name IMMANUEL!"***

[8] Esther— From King Ahaz to Queen Esther: In this brief account of satan's attempt to destroy "The Woman (The people of God) and her Seed" ... we have advanced forward in time to **5BC!** NOW, wicked Haman persuaded King Ahasuerus to decree that all Jews must die! **Once again, the great dragon, satan, stood over the PEOPLE OF GOD to devour the royal seed and to destroy all hope of merciful salvation through**

**Messiah. BUT GOD!** God raised up Queen Esther who willingly risked her life for the saving of herself and many others! **NOTE:** *And we have, in our own generation, been raised up for 'such a time as this!'* ***GOD HAS NOT SAVED US FROM HIS WRATH AND GIVEN US HIS ETERNAL MERCY... SO THAT WE CAN HIBERNATE IN OUR HOUSES! NOR IS OUR PRIMARY CALLING TO SAVE OUR (Or any!) EARTHLY NATION. HERE IS OUR CALLING: (1 PETER 2:9-21; ESTHER 4:8-16)***

[9] Matthew-John— From Esther to Bethlehem, to the Cross and the Empty Tomb: From Genesis 3:15, the Godly Seed survived for thousands of years in spite of intrigue and every attempt of satan! **The angel rejoices—** ‘You shall call his name JESUS, for He shall save His people from their sins!’ **“And the angel said** unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord!”

The birth of Christ was THE major advance by the ‘Seed of the Woman’ ... *Unto you is born, a Saviour!* Simeon cried out, ‘I have seen Thy salvation!’ THIS WAS AND IS WAR! And, as the mighty drama continued, Herod slew all the young boys of Bethlehem, (age 2 and under), as he sought to kill Messiah. Moreover, the religious leaders sought to kill Messiah before God’s appointed time.

[10] Matthew-John— From Bethlehem to the Cross and the Empty Tomb: The Greatest Battle in the LONGEST WAR took place at Calvary! Satan and his followers no doubt thought that CHRIST ON THE CROSS was their victory! 'Jesus is dead! We have killed God's Son. Now we shall be free!' But "up from the grave He arose, triumphant over all His foes!" [Nevertheless, though defeated at Calvary and at the empty tomb, satan still rages! He knows he is defeated and he knows his time is short, **So his hatred of all saints of God in Christ is all the more severe!**]

[11] Acts-Revelation— From the Empty Tomb Until the Second Coming of JESUS: For 2000 years, satan, (AND those ruled by him), have turned in hatred toward those who love and follow Messiah, Jesus. (Acts 4:23-31; Rev 12:6, 10-17)

At many different times and places throughout the centuries the followers of Messiah, the Lamb of God, have left A TRAIL OF MARTYR'S BLOOD. But they could not and cannot be silenced, stopped, nor destroyed. All of Messiah's followers are destined to rule and reign with Messiah, as they worship God and the Lamb for all eternity!

[12] Moreover, in God's time, (IN THE LATTER DAYS OF THE WAR OF WARS), satan and all who are deceived by and marked by satan will experience eternal ruin in the fires of hell. (Rev. 14:9-11; 19:19-21; 21:8) O SINNER, FLEE THE WRATH OF GOD TODAY,

BEFORE IT IS EVERLASTINGLY TOO LATE! *O saint in Christ, salvation is FREE! But in this War of the Ages— Satan hates you. You WILL suffer! You might be imprisoned! You might be tortured! You might be killed! You could really LOOK LIKE A FOOL for not denying Jesus! This is war and it gets ugly! It's always been this way, since Cain killed Able! Value your soul above all else. Never recant no matter the cost! LET US REMEMBER: It is God's good pleasure to redeem and to save sinners; and to bring all the redeemed, safely home to heaven!* LET US TRUST HIM! LOOK UP! REDEMPTION DRAWETH NIGH! 'Be thou faithful unto death!' Endure the crosses that come our way! Christ and a Crown Are Waiting! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! The Great World-Wide War Will End! The King of Kings is Coming Back! Amen!

### FAITH EMPOWERING LESSONS FOR ALL WHO ARE IN CHRIST!

[1] Satan was and is and forever will be powerless to frustrate the purposes of God. He can never do more than or other than what God allows. And all that God allows him to do is designed by and DIRECTED by God for some good purpose in the plan of God. (Job 42:1-6!) [2] We often wonder how a Good and Sovereign God could allow sin and satan and all of the incredible suffering that goes on in our fallen world! There will always be mystery; **however, Romans 9:22-23, reveals that God** has "endured " and/or "designed beforehand " all things so that there will be GRAND DEMONSTRATIONS of His holy

attributes. There are many things that we may not understand or know; but there are some things which God has revealed to His children. **And when God says it in His Word, let us be humble and believe!** **FOR EXAMPLE:** The Bible reveals that, God raised up Pharaoh for the purpose of demonstrating God's Power and God's Name! (Romans 9:17) God raised up Israel to set forth God's praise! (Isaiah 41:21) **In case we have forgotten,** God is busy carrying out His agenda, not ours! He created all things for Himself! (Col. 1:16) God is busy doing all of His good pleasure and will; and nothing nor no one can stop Him! (Ps. 115:3; 135:6; Prov. 19:21; 21:1; Isa. 43:13; Dan. 4:34-35) *God's actions never place fresh evil in any rebel's heart. He does not tempt or cause sinners to sin. God's actions never lessen sinful men's responsibility for their own actions. GOD has ordained 'sowing and reaping' and He 'rules and over-rules' all! Thus, God is never anxious or frustrated!* **In all of the incredible drama of satan's attempts to destroy Messiah, not for one moment was God caught off guard, nor did He have to put into place "EMERGENCY MEASURES"—** Rather, God was, according to His own time-table, orchestrating every event to reveal GRAND DEMONSTRATIONS OF HIS CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES! ***"What if God, willing to show His wrath, and to make His power known, endured with much long-suffering, the vessels of wrath, fitted for destruction: And that He might make known the riches of His glory on vessels of***

*mercy, which He hath afore prepared unto glory...*" (Romans 9:22-23) [3] When difficult experiences of life tumble in and when the raging horror of sin, selfishness and satan are attacking on every hand— **Stay close to the Good Shepherd! Love God and watch Him work it all out— Not only for His glory, but also for the ultimate good of all His born-again Children!** (Romans 8:28-39; Rev. 14: 7-13; 15: 1-4) [4] **THEREFORE:** Worship God in awe and wonder at HIS PATIENCE and LONG-SUFFERING with vessels of wrath! **And most of all let us all be astounded at "THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY ON VESSELS OF MERCY!"** Henceforth, let us BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR GRAND DEMONSTRATIONS OF GOD'S HOLY CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES! (Romans 9:22-23) [5] Please understand: Because we live in Spiritual War Zones, SAINTS will have continuous conflict of some sort. However, these situations are but the settings/the stage for some glorious victory! **Christian:** You have what it takes in Christ to "...overcome him (satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of your testimony..." *It is God's will that we be among those who do not hold this present life so dear that we are unwilling to lay it down for Jesus' sake!* (Rev. 12:11)

**Christian:** Spend much time in contemplation of CORONATION/WEDDING DAY and the FINAL END OF ALL WAR Often and deeply drink from this fountain: Revelation 19-22! [6] TRACING THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNT OF CHRIST'S FIRST COMING

and simultaneously tracing the attempts of satan to destroy Messiah and/or Messiah's followers from Genesis 3, through days yet ahead of us should be of great comfort to all saints! Clearly we see that God says what He means! God means what He says! God keeps all of His promises! God does all of His good pleasure! It is God's good pleasure to redeem and to save sinners; and to bring all the redeemed, safely home to heaven! **LET US TRUST HIM! LOOK UP! REDEMPTION DRAWETH NIGH!** 'Be thou faithful unto death!' Endure the crosses that come our way! Christ and a Crown Are Waiting! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! The Great World Wide War Will End!! The King of Kings is Coming Back! Amen !

Grace to all in Christ! James Bell

NEWS NOTES:

**SUNDAY SERVICES: DECEMBER 21, 28:**

[1] **Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes. [2] **WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

**SPECIAL SERVICES:**

**\*\*\* DECEMBER 21, INSTEAD OF SUNDAY SCHOOL, A CHURCH-WIDE 'BRUNCH!'     /// AND ... LORD'S SUPPER, at close of Morning Worship**

**\*\*\* December 28, Fourth Sunday Evening worship; 5:00pm:**

**EVERY SATURDAY\*\*\* 8:00 AM**, — Men's Bible Study! (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!*)

**(December 20; Romans, chapter 5)**

**NEXT Ladies Bible Study, JANUARY, 2026 @ 11:00 AM**

**\*\*\*TUESDAYS: LADIES PRAYER MEETING @ 10:00AM**

***Young Adults ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm at Jaden and Rhi's home!***

***WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: 6:30pm— \*\* Adult Prayer Service \*\* Young FAMILIES STUDY/Prayer Service***  
 .....

**\*\*\* LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:** SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) —  
 MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066 / OR... TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING:

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>