



The Harvest

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Hanukkah and the War Between Light and Darkness

12.05.20 | Weekly Study

START

Start your study by inviting God's presence to meet with you as you study His word.

MAIN VERSES

[Genesis 3:15](#)

[Revelation 20:1-3](#)

OVERVIEW

Hanukkah is also known as the Festival of Light. The theme of light in the celebration of Hanukkah celebrates the Jewish idea that God is light and that it is the Messiah who brings the light of God into our world. The Messiah is the Light of God who brings the revelation of God, the life of God, the salvation of God, and the judgment of God. In fact, there are ancient prophecies that Messiah, the Light of God, will come and crush the head of the Serpent. Seeing that Yeshua is the Messiah, did He fulfill the prophecy and crush the head of the Serpent when He came two thousand years ago? If not, when will He? In this teaching we will explore how this ancient prophecy unfolds over time and when it is fulfilled.

CONTENT

[Read Genesis 3:15](#)

A thoroughly Jewish Translation of Genesis 3:15 called TCT states, "And I shall place hatred between you and between the woman, and between your seed and between her seed. He will crush your head, and you will bite his heel." What does this tell us about the Messiah and the serpent found in Genesis 3?

The reference to "He will crush your head" has long been understood by both Jewish and non-Jewish commentators to be the coming Messiah who will crush the head of the serpent (Satan). This paints a picture of a very long struggle between good and evil, light and darkness, the Messiah and Satan. As children of the Light, we all are caught up in this conflict along with the children of darkness. The promise in Genesis is that the Messiah, who is the Light of God, will come and crush the head of the serpent and thereby forever destroy him and his realm of darkness. These great themes of light and

darkness are interwoven in the story and Festival of Light, AKA Hanukkah. Hanukkah contains the hope of this ancient prophecy of the Light of God (Messiah) dispelling the realm of darkness.

Read Revelation 20:1-3

Who is the Dragon?

The Dragon is none other than the ancient serpent who enters into the scene of human history in Genesis chapter 3. This ancient serpent is identified later as the devil and Satan himself!

Read Revelation 20:1-3

What does it mean that he, the dragon, is bound with a great chain and thrown into the abyss?

This symbolizes his power of death and his realm of hell being severely limited. See Hebrews 2:14, Colossians. 2:15, and Revelation 1:17-18 for language that describes him being bound when Messiah was crucified and descended into hell (the realm of the dead) and triumphed over Satan and his angels.

Read Revelation 20:1-3

How long is a thousand years?

If one takes this passage literally, it is one thousand years. If one takes the passage as a figure of speech, it simply means a very long time. Here are some examples of this phraseology and similar phraseology being used figuratively: *Deuteronomy 7:9 and Psalm 50:10*. Seeing that the book of Revelation is apocalyptic literature that is chocked full of symbols and figures of speech, it is highly probable that this phrase, *a thousand years*, is meant to be taken figuratively as a symbol for a very long period of time. Also note that the great chain, the keys to the abyss, and the abyss itself are most likely symbolic. The chain represents a binding or limiting of power and liberty to use that power. The keys represent the power and authority over the abyss. And the abyss represents the realm of death and hell itself.

Summary

Jesus has already triumphed over Satan and His realm through His own death and resurrection approximately two thousand years ago. He will destroy Satan, as symbolized in the crushing of his head, when He returns. In short, good triumphs over evil, the light, disperses the darkness, and Messiah will soon crush the head of the ancient serpent. Happy Hanukkah!

TAKE ACTION

Go to our website and download our Hanukkah resources found here:

<http://www.graftedin.com/resources>. Read them and prepare ahead of time to celebrate Hanukkah in your home this year!