

THE GREATEST CONFLICT OF ALL THE AGES

By Dr. Ralph "Yankee" Arnold

Satan declared war against God Almighty when he said in his heart, "I will be like the Most High". He slivered into the garden of Eden and with lies and deceit, he captured Adam and Eve.

God responded by declaring war on Satan when he promised he would send a God man into the world to pay for the sins of all mankind.

Gen 3:15 *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.*

Eve believed that Cain was that child. **Gen 4:1** *And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, **I have gotten a man from the LORD.***

By the time of the flood, Satan had destroyed every family but Noah and his family.

God promised Abraham and Sarah, although they were barren, that the promised seed would come through Abraham's believing seed. With Isaac on the altar, the fulfillment of the promise came down to one person that was to be slain, but God intervened.

Isaac's wife, Rebecca, was barren, but after 14 years she had two sons Jacob and Esau. God promised that the line would go through Jacob, but Esau made a vow that he would kill Jacob. The world was down to only one man to be left standing and fulfill the promise of God.

In Egypt, Pharaoh declared that all male children must be killed. This was also a move by Satan to destroy the royal line. **Exo 1:16** *And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; **if it be a son, then ye shall kill him:** but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.*

Haman was an evil man, and his goal was to annihilate every Jew. Through one woman's plea, Queen Esther, to the king of Persia the Jewish people were spared.

Jehoram-one left. **2Ch 21:7** *Howbeit the LORD would not destroy the house of David, because of the covenant that he had made with David, and as he promised to give a light to him and to his sons for ever.*

Only Jehoahaz was left. **2Ch 21:16** *Moreover the LORD stirred up against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines, and of the Arabians, that were near the Ethiopians: **2Ch 21:17** *And they came up into Judah, and brake into it, and carried away all the**

substance that was found in the king's house, and his sons also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons.

One left. [2Ch 22:10](#) *But when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal of the house of Judah.*

2Ch 22:11 *But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons that were slain, and put him and his nurse in a bedchamber. [2Ch 22:12](#) And he was with them hid in the house of God six years:*

2Ki 21:1 *Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. He was born three years after his dad, Hezekiah, was to have died. You see why God gave him an extra 15 years ?*

Notice the timing of this decree. A woman who is great with child must either walk or ride close to 100 miles. I don't believe it's just a coincidence. [Luk 2:3](#) *And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. [Luk 2:4](#) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, **into Judaea**, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)*

Satan used King Herod to stab at one baby. [Mat 2:16](#) *Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.*

Satan dogged the son of God for 3 ½ years and used every means available to kill the promised seed.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead was the greatest victory of all time. However, the battle for the souls of men is not yet complete. Satan continues to battle to keep that one believer from reaching that one lost individual.

If we are running a race, is it possible that the Devil may put barriers (obstacles), temptations, or anything that may blur our eyes to the clear command of God?

[1Pe 5:8](#) *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

[Jas 4:7](#) *Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist the devil**, and he will flee from you.*

Although the Devil was defeated at the cross, the devil is still fighting to destroy your testimony. You resist the devil by resisting his lies by believing the truth, by not loving the world, nor by being lifted with the pride of life.

Gospel Presentation