

## Part 1 - Building the Furniture for the Tabernacle

### [The Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat]

In chapter thirty-six we learned about how the children of Israel began the work building the Tabernacle. Bezaleel and Aholiab were called by God to lead the building project and they started first by making the curtains that formed the walls for the Tabernacle. There was an inner wall, formed by curtains made of fine twined linen along with blue, purple and scarlet threads symbolizing the dedication to Jesus Christ that we must have in serving Him with a pure heart. Then there was another set of curtains made of goat's hair, symbolizing of the kind of separation we must have from sin when we serve God. Then there were layers of rams' skins dyed red and badgers' skins (actually some kind of antelope). These provided two layers of impenetrable protection for the Tabernacle and thus symbolize how we need two layers of protection upon our soul, which are the Word of God and His Holy Spirit. We also learned how they built the boards that would hold up those curtains. The boards were made of shittim (acacia wood) overlaid with gold. The shittim (acacia) wood was very strong and durable and symbolizes the kind of spiritual strength we need to have, which can only be found in the Word of God. The gold symbolizes the purity of God's Word (Jesus Christ) and our faith in it (Him). We were even given details on the smaller items they made, such as the sockets of silver that held the boards up and the loops the curtains were to be hung with, as well as the taches of brass that joined the curtains together. This symbolizes how every single member in the Body of Christ is important because, the Holy Spirit uses each one of us to help join the Body of Christ and hold it up so it can function properly. The Body of Christ (Jesus' righteous government) is made up of many people who willingly use the gifts God has given them, at the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We also looked into the spiritual significance of Biblical numerics in the items that made the walls (of curtains) for the Tabernacle and found how it amazingly witnesses to God's plan of Salvation, which is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We also looked at how the *future* walls of New Jerusalem will be Israel and the apostles of Jesus Christ. We also learned how God Himself will be a wall of protection (of fire) for the city and how His Holy Spirit is a wall of protection for us today, **if** we are in the Body of Christ. The types in this book of Exodus are amazing, as they beautiful portray, and witness to, God's glorious plan to save His wayward children from the grip of spiritual deception that Satan's rebellion has on His children. We also learned how important it is that we learn to conform to God's Word (and not the world) if we want to make a Temple for Him inside our very soul, so we can be a part of the Body of Christ. The chapter was another enlightening, and exciting one, indeed. But we're not done. This next chapter will continue on with telling us how the first Tabernacle was built; but this time, we'll learn about the inner items of the Tabernacle – the furniture. Just how was the Tabernacle furnished? Let's find out...

*Exodus 37*

*1 And Bezaleel made the **ark of shittim wood**: two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it:*

The next item Bezaleel made was the Ark of the Covenant. Like the beams holding up the walls of the Tabernacle, it was made of shittim (acacia) wood which was extremely strong, symbolic of the strength of our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ but also how we must be strong in our faith in God's Word (Jesus Christ). Ps 96:6 tells us that *honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary*. The ark was 2.5 cubits long and 1.5 cubits tall and wide. One in Biblical Numerics symbolizes **unity** while two symbolizes **union**, and **division**, as well as **witnessing**. Remember the Ark was also called the Ark of the Testimony because it had the tables of the covenant in it which, along with the manna and Aaron's rod that budded (Heb 9:4), symbolizes the only way we can be in **unity** with our Heavenly Father is by keeping His commandments. Jesus told us that if we love Him, we will keep His commandments. And when we sincerely strive to obey His Commandments, He will then send us His Holy Spirit to *help us* learn to keep them *from our heart* (John 14). Romans 8 further explains the way we do this is by learning to put off (mortify, or kill) our carnal mind (way of thinking) (a.k.a. our heart) and learn to think on a higher level, which is based on being unselfish and caring (loving) for others. Then we can indeed be in **union** with our Heavenly Father. But doing so also causes **division** because we are in a spiritual war (Eph 6) with Satan who is leading a rebellion against our Heavenly Father. And all those who learn to mortify (kill) the 'old man', who is full of pride and lust (1 John 2:16), will automatically be **divided** from those who choose to remain thinking 'in the flesh' which is the 'old man'. However, when we learn to put on the 'new man' (which is the 'mind of Christ') we are automatically a **witness to the world** of what the love of God truly is all about. So, this very important item in the Sanctuary symbolizes the essence of what God wants in our heart (His Law). The mercy seat is where God literally sits and thus, it also represents the fact that God wants His Holy Spirit (and His Word) to dwell in our soul (1 Cor 3:16, 6:19, 2 Cor 6:16). It thus also teaches us how we can obtain eternal life; by staying loyal to Him (Jesus Christ) and learning to communicate with Him (keep His Word and Holy Spirit in our heart and mind) so we learn how to do what is right and be *sincere* about it. We can only be a part of the Body of Christ when we put on that 'new man' and *learn to think like He does* – which again is to put on the 'mind of Christ'. So, even the numbers of the dimensions of the Ark of the Covenant (Testimony) reveal (witness) to us the essence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### *Exodus 37*

*2 And he overlaid it with pure gold within and without, and made a crown of gold to it round about.*

The Ark was also overlaid with pure gold, inside and out. We've learned that gold represents both the purity of our Heavenly Father (and His Kingship) as well as our faith in Him (1 Pt 1:7). The Ark had a crown of gold around it too, which, of course, represents the fact that God Almighty (and His Son, Jesus Christ) is truly the King of kings and Lord of lords (Isa 9:6-7, 62:1-3, 1 Tim 6:16, Rev 17:14, 19:16). *For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward* (Deut 10:17). Those who remain loyal to God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, are also promised a crown. In James 1:12 we're told that: *blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.* 2

Tim 4:8 tells us that this crown is also a *crown of righteousness* while 1 Peter 5:4 calls it a *crown of glory* and Rev 3:11 warns us not to let anyone take our crown, which can only be done through allowing ourselves to be deceived by Satan. We must diligently strive to love, serve and obey Jesus Christ (and His Holy Spirit) so we are not deceived into following Satan's rebellion. This crown, therefore, is a very important symbol for us today. We should not forget it.

*Exodus 37*

*3 And he cast for it four rings of gold, to be set by the four corners of it; even two rings upon the one side of it, and two rings upon the other side of it.*

*4 And he made staves of shittim wood, and overlaid them with gold.*

*5 And he put the staves into the rings by the sides of the ark, to bear the ark.*

The Ark also had four rings on it for transportation purposes. Remember, the first Tabernacle was designed to be mobile, because the children of Israel were going to be moving around for a while. Staves (beams or rods) of shittim (acacia) wood were then made (and overlaid with gold) to 'bear the ark' so it could be safely moved. David found out the hard way that it was against God's Will to move the ark any other way. In 2 Sam 6:6-10 and 1 Chron 13:9-11 we're told that David tried to move the Ark in a 'new cart' instead of with the staves. Because the Ark was made of wood overlaid with gold, it was an excellent conductor. Therefore, when a man (Uzzah) tried to steady it with his hand, he was struck down dead by God Himself. *God is a consuming fire* (Deut 4:24, 9:3, Heb 12:23) and the purest form of fire (energy) is electrical. But thankfully, that did not stop David from bringing the Ark to Jerusalem. He had the Levites study God's Word and found out what they were doing wrong; and then they tried again, as 1 Chron 15:12-15 tells us. When they moved the Ark of the Covenant *the way God commanded*, they successfully brought it to Jerusalem. This is an important lesson for us today because it signifies to us that we cannot handle God's Word ignorantly nor deceitfully (2 Cor 4:2). If we encounter problems when trying to obey God, we must study (2 Tim 2:15) to find out what we're doing wrong. It may just be that Satan is trying to screw things up; but it may also be that we are ignorantly disobeying God, as David and the children of Israel did. The Holy Spirit will help us learn what we're doing wrong and what corrections to make so long as we remain sincere and diligent in studying and obeying His Word.

*Exodus 37*

*6 And he made the **mercy seat of pure gold**: two cubits and a half was the length thereof, and one cubit and a half the breadth thereof.*

*7 And he made **two cherubims of gold**, beaten out of one piece made he them, on the two ends of the mercy seat;*

*8 One cherub on the end on this side, and another cherub on the other end on that side: out of the mercy seat made he the cherubims on the two ends thereof.*

*9 And the cherubims spread out their wings on high, and covered with their wings over the mercy seat, with their faces one to another; even to the mercy seatward were the faces of the cherubims*

The Ark also had a beautiful ‘mercy seat’ made of pure gold that set on top of it, covering the items within it (Heb 9:4 – *the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant*). The mercy seat also had two cherubim’s made entirely of gold that sat at either end of the mercy seat, with their wings spread out to cover (protect) the mercy seat. This symbolizes the way God protects His throne. We’re not given more details of what these cherubim’s looked like, and Paul confirmed that’s the way God wanted it for in Heb 9:5 he said: *and over it [the mercy seat] the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly*. However, we are given more insight into the purpose of the cherubim’s, from Ezekiel 28, where we learn that (in the first earth age) God actually made Satan an *anointed cherub that covereth* (Ezek 28:14). To reiterate, this is before Satan defected and rebelled against God. We must remember that our arch enemy is extremely wise; he knows God’s Word within and without; but sadly, he uses that knowledge for evil instead of good. In Ezek 28:15 God said: *Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee*. The chapter goes on to explain that God created Satan for this position. Satan is therefore, one of the most beautiful, charismatic and wisest of all of God’s creation. This is why he makes such an awful enemy. And Ezekiel 28 goes on to explain how Satan weaponizes the law to oppress and control God’s children. We must not be ignorant of his tactics. [learn more with **Evil Devices...** <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/68> , as well as this special study: **Once Was a High Priest...** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/423> and **How Can Satan Deceive the Whole World...** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/380>]. But thankfully, Satan is no match for Jesus Christ. And through Jesus Christ, God gives us power over Satan, and all others who follow him. As Jesus told us...

*18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.*

*19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.*

*20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*

Luke 10:18-20

Jesus saw Satan fall ‘from heaven as lighting’ because Jesus Christ is God Himself (John 1:1, 14, Col 1:19, 2:9) and thus, saw Satan’s fall (defect) from truth in the first earth age. However, He also saw God depose Satan from this position. [Learn more in: **I Saw Satan Fall Like Lightning From Heaven** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/327>]. Jesus Christ knows full well how Satan began to use his position high in God’s government for evil but, through His incarnation as Jesus, God has truly overcome Satan’s rebellion. In John 16:33, Jesus said: *these things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world*. The word ‘cheer’ here means *courage* (#2293). Thus, Jesus has taught us in His Word (the Bible) how to overcome Satan’s deception. It is through accepting the price Jesus paid for us, and believing upon Him, that we spiritually overcome Satan’s deception. When we do this, we willingly strive to obey God and He thus sends us His Holy Spirit to guide us and protect us (John 14, etc.). Paul also explained this very well in his letter to the Hebrews...

*14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;*

*15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*

*16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.*

*17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*

*18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.*

Heb 2:14-18

So, the cherubim's that are on the mercy seat, which is on top of the Ark of the Covenant, symbolize the real cherubim's which are in heaven. Yes, Satan was replaced. We're told in Ezekiel 28 how God fired him from that position and we cannot 'speak particularly' (Heb 9:5) about the current cherubim's protecting God's throne because... well, ask yourself: why would God give away the secret as to how He currently protects His throne when we are in a spiritual war? God isn't stupid. So, we're given examples of these cherubim's through the golden images Bezaleel made (at God's instruction) but we don't know exactly who or what they are. That's fair, isn't it? God gives us the knowledge we need to overcome Satan in His Word but He doesn't tell us everything about the way He does things, *because we're in a spiritual war*. And besides, it might very well be that, in the flesh body, we're likely unable to truly understand some things (John 3:12). But, rest assured, we are given all the information we need to serve Him here in this fleshly dimension...

*The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, **that we may do all the words of this law.***

Deut 29:29

*The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and **he will shew them his covenant.***

Ps 25:15

*All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and **he to whom the Son will reveal him.***

Luke 10:22

*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

John 14:26

*22 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.*

23 *But take ye heed: **behold, I have foretold you all things.***  
Mark 13:22-23

God's Word and His Holy Spirit will reveal to us every thing we need to know to fight the spiritual war but God reserves some secrets for Himself, simply because He does not want the enemy (Satan and all those who follow him) to know **all** about His battle plans. This certainly makes sense. What commander allows top secrets to be made known to everyone who is serving under him? Nope, doesn't happen. He tells his troops *what they need to know to do their part in the battles they are facing* and it's not until they are right about to go to battle when he reveals the plan(s). Likewise, does our Heavenly Father albeit He does so with utter perfection.

*The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name.*  
Ex 15:3

So, let's remember that Jesus Christ (God Himself) is the top commander in the spiritual war we're in with Satan (and his followers) and we are His servants. We must therefore, learn to prepare for the war the best we can.

3 *For though we walk in the flesh, **we do not war after the flesh:***  
4 *(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)*  
5 *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself [our prideful self, the old man] against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; [we must learn to control all our thoughts and make them come in line with God's Word]*  
6 *And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.*  
2 Cor 10:3-6

Learning to put off the 'old man' and put on the 'new man' is an essential part of the spiritual war. **We have to open the line of communication with God** (through Jesus Christ, His Word and Holy Spirit) **and stay tuned into Him**. It's only when our *obedience is fulfilled* that we can then be ready to *revenge all disobedience* for our Heavenly Father.

3 *Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*  
4 *No man that warreth **entangleth** himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.*  
5 *And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.*  
2 Tim 2:3-5

The word 'entangleth' here is #1707 and means: *to entwine*, i.e. (figuratively) *involve with*. We cannot allow our heart to be (in any way) 'entangled' (entwined or involved) with the world for *whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God* (James 4:4). That's why we have to clean our heart (carnal mind) and fill it with God's Word. Ephesians 6 gives us excellent

advice on how to get ready for the spiritual war – what we’re supposed to put on spiritually, but also consider the following...

*1 Blessed be the LORD my strength, **which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight:**  
2 My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and he in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me.*

Ps 144:1-2

It’s God (through His Word and His Holy Spirit) that teaches us how to war both physically and spiritually. Put the spiritual armor on (Eph 6) and *learn to use it well*. God will protect us (both physically and spiritually) when we learn to trust and obey Him.

*Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.*

Prov 20:18

Only the ‘good advice’ from the Word of God can we be ready for the spiritual war...

*Wisdom is better than weapons of war: but one sinner destroyeth much good.*

Eccl 9:18

Wisdom is essential in the spiritual war and wisdom comes from who?

*6 For **the LORD giveth wisdom:** out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.  
7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.  
8 He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.*

Prov 2:6-8

Jesus also gave us some very good advice about the war we are in...

*25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,  
26 If any man come to me, and hate [this actually means to ‘love less’] not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.  
27 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.  
28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?  
29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,  
30 Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.  
31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?  
32 Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.*

33 *So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.*

34 *Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned?*

35 *It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.*

Luke 14:25-35

We all must look honestly inside ourselves and see what's most important in our lives. If we are not truly willing to "lose" our life in the flesh, we cannot follow Jesus. While it's unlikely we, in this generation, will face martyrdom, it's still something we must be *willing* to do, for the name of Jesus Christ. Many Christians have been martyred for the sake of Jesus Christ and we are no better than them. But, on the deeper level, what Jesus is telling us in these verses is that, we must be willing to crucify our carnal mind, which is our heart – it's the part of us that is our intentions, our feelings and desires. If we can't crucify (put to death) that part of us, how do you expect to be able to resist the temptations of Satan? You can't be ready to fight for God if you don't put to death the part of you that yearns to follow Satan. This must be *now*, before the 'big battle' comes. Remember, the 'hot' war is not yet on earth...

7 *And **there was war in heaven:** Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,*

8 *And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.*

9 *And **the great dragon was cast out**, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

10 *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

11 *And **they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb**, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

12 *Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. **Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea!** for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because **he knoweth that he hath but a short time.***

13 *And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, **he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.***

14 *And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.*

15 *And the serpent **cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman**, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.*

16 *And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.*

17 *And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

Rev 12:7-17

There is literally war in heaven and soon (as Paul distinctly warns in 2 Thess 2) Satan and his fallen angels will literally be kicked out of heaven. Guess where they are coming? Yes, to earth. And we've got to be ready for it. No, there is no Rapture that's gonna take us out of here to evade the battle [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/334>]. **God wants us here to fight for Him.** Jesus said that the *gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come* (Matt 24:14). Just how do you think the Gospel of the Kingdom (the Gospel of Jesus Christ) is going to be preached? He makes it clear in Mth 24, Mk 13, and Lk 21 that it's going to be *through God's faithful servants*. Why do you think He seals people before the battle begins (Rev 7)? And when Satan is here, *he's gonna be pissed*. He won't show it because he'll be pretending to be the Savior of mankind (2 Thess 2). But rest assured he will be very zealous in trying to deceive all those who truly follow Jesus Christ because their refusal to worship him and his wicked governmental system (the beast of Rev 13) exposes him as a fraud. Satan will send a flood of lies to the world to get them to think he's really God Almighty, when, in fact, he's only a man (Ezek 28:2,9). This flood will be directed vehemently at those who refuse to follow him. Yes, Satan is allowed to attack (spiritually) all of those who follow Jesus Christ. But again, Satan will not *physically* be attacking us. It's all those what follow Satan we must watch out for. Satan has many, many agents in this dimension who will attach us, both physically and spiritually. We've got to have our spiritual armor on so we can learn how to fight.

A very good example of this (1 Cor 10:11) is found in 2 Kings 6:8-23. When the king of Syria was planning attacks on the children of Israel, God (through His prophet Elisha) warned the king of Israel about those attacks and told him how to avoid them. This happened so many times that the king of Syria thought someone in his military was a spy for Israel. But then one of his advisors told him that no one was a spy. The king of Israel had been warned by God's prophet, Elisha. It's a great story to read through. The king of Syria then sent an army to Elisha to 'get him' and when Elisha's servant saw it, he freaked out. Elisha told him not to worry because there was a larger army with them than the Syrian army coming to 'get them'. He then prayed to God to show this servant the army that was in the other dimension – this is God's mighty army – and when God opened his eyes, he saw that *the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha* (2 Kings 6:17). Then the army literally came down to Elisha and his servant (vs 18) and Elisha asked God to blind the Syrian army. Elisha then led them into Samaria... the capital of Israel! Elisha then asked God to unblind the Syrian army and He did so. But instead of annihilating the army, Elisha commanded the king of Israel to feed and water the men and let them go home. After this, there were no more raids against Israel. While the Syrian army would come against Israel again, bands of the military men didn't go and raid the outlying towns of Israel (on their own accord) anymore, because of the kindness that had been shown to them. This gives us examples of how Prov 25:21-22 and Rom 12:19-13:1 are fulfilled.

So, when we get the spiritual armor on and in place (we get good at using it) God will help us learn how to avoid any conflicts He does not want us in. And while we should not be afraid to shed physical blood for Jesus Christ (Mth 10:28), we're promised God will take care of us...

*17 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.  
18 But there shall not an hair of your head perish.  
19 In your patience possess ye your souls.*  
Luke 21:17-19

Patiently waiting for God's guidance through His Holy Spirit is what will get us through the war we're about to face. We will be hated of men but that's ok because Jesus promised *not an hair of your head perish*. Again, it's likely we won't be physically harmed because the entire point of Satan being here on earth (with all his fallen angels) is to deceive us into worshiping him. So, he'll likely even command the world not to harm us physically. The only two people the Bible says are literally killed are the two witnesses spearheading the spiritual war for God (Rev 11). But you can bet on it that he will be trying to harm your soul. He wants to deceive you so badly because He hates the Light (John 3:19-21). So, if you are a light bearer for Jesus Christ (and we are supposed to be *the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.* - Matt 5:14), you'll be a target. But don't worry about it. As Paul said in Phil 4:6-7: *Be careful [anxious] for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.* The book of Daniel gives an excellent summary, basically telling us the 'bottom line' of the war...

*21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;  
22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.*  
Dan 7:21-22

Satan can only attack us *until* Jesus Christ returns and, he's only got a 'short time' (Rev 12:12). Jesus told us that, for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened (Matt 24:22). Revelations reveals this the time was shortened to a mere five months (Rev 9:5,10) – the same amount of time that the water 'prevailed' upon Noah's ark (Gen 7:24). But we must remember to get spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically prepared for that time *now*. Because, once Satan is cast to the earth to form his evil 'one world government', there won't be enough time to get ready for it... because it'll already be here. You'll either be ready or not. [learn more in the special study on: **Oil Needed; Be Sure You're Ready** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/286>]. And we know the time is coming soon because the world is already being moved towards a one world government. Not only have the roots of the fig tree been planted [learn more in the special study on the **Parable of the Fig Tree**: <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/950>] since 1948, but we've very recently seen how those in charge use made up crisis' to try and force the world into a 'world order' they can control [learn more in the special study: **Is This a Dry Run or Is a Transformation Taking Place?** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/285>]. Therefore, let us all strive to take heed to the warnings...

*Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.*  
1 Cor 16:13

***Stand fast** therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*

Gal 5:1

*Therefore, brethren, **stand fast**, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle*

2 Thess 2:15

*23 Let us **hold fast** the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

*24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

*25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

Heb 10:23-25

*But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we **hold fast** the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope **firm unto the end.***

Heb 3:6

*21 Prove all things; **hold fast** that which is good.*

*22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.*

*23 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Thess 5:21-23

We'll pick this up in part 2...

AMEN.