

The Civil War in the Heavens

GOD against the gods

Ezekiel feverishly writes the vision before him. *A windstorm came out of the north—an immense cloud with flashing lightning surrounded by brilliant lights of glowing metal. In the fire were four living creatures each with four faces and four wings. The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it. Wheels were on the ground beside each creature sparkling like chrysolite—each wheel was a wheel within a wheel covered in eyes. These creatures were also covered in eyes and they surrounded a throne, which hovered above them. Seated on the throne was a figure of a man with a torso of glowing metal. Energy raged from within and without him. It was the glory of God.* Ezekiel fell to the ground face down hearing the voice declaring judgment on His people and God's enemies.



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A civil war in heaven was raging. God Almighty was taking down His rogue sons—one-by-one. His grief was excruciating—for He loves His sons. They were His best and choicest in His holy council. He had given them power and authority to judge, but they became proud and turned against God. This is a recent history, all taking place within the past 4,000 years—4 days in God's timeline. No more will God allow His creation to reach such heights. In trust and in confidence, God shares His painful and personal story with us through Ezekiel.

“Consider Assyria, once a cedar [a holy council leader] in Lebanon [God's holy council/headquarters], with beautiful branches overshadowing the forest... I made it beautiful... The cedars [other holy council leaders] in the garden [government] of God could not rival it, nor could the pine trees equal its boughs, nor could the plane trees compare with

its branches—no tree in the garden of God could match its beauty. It was the envy of all the trees of Eden in the garden of God” (Ezekiel 31:3-9).

But alas, God’s choicest and best fell and He mourned, covering the deep springs with His grief as He held back its life support. God watched him shrivel into the darkness of ignorance and foolishness. How could this happen? How did this story begin?

It began with a day of rejoicing when God made the earth. “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundations? ...On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the **morning stars sang together** and **ALL THE SONS OF GOD SHOUTED FOR JOY?**” (Job 38:6-7)

God loves His creation and He gives generously. He gave His heavenly sons opportunities to participate in judgment and leadership. “**God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgment among the ‘gods’**” (Psalm 82:1).

As they grew in knowledge and wisdom, God gave His sons in His heavenly holy council an inheritance—the nations of the earth. God divided the nations according to the number of His sons in His holy council. They were given the authority to teach the nations the way of God.

“When the Most High assigned lands to the nations, when he divided up the human race, he established the boundaries of the peoples **according to the number in his heavenly court**” (New Living Translation Deuteronomy 32:8).

God participated in this venture. His portion are the descendants of Jacob/Israel. “For the LORD’s portion is his people, Jacob his allotted inheritance” (Deuteronomy 32:9).

Initially, these gods rejoiced and greatly respected and honored their creator, God Almighty.

“And so the heavens will praise your wonderful deed, O God (YHWH), even your faithfulness, in the **assembly of the holy ones**. For **who in the sky is equal to God (YHWH)? Who is like God (YHWH) among the sons of God, A GOD FEARED GREATLY IN THE COUNCIL OF THE HOLY ONES**, and awesome above all surrounding him?” (Psalm 89:5-7).

But, this honour to have the authority to teach the nations was not enough. One-by-one, pride seeded its rebellion for they desired self-determination, self-reliance, self-glory and worship. They offered the nations they ruled, power and glory too, but it came with a heavy sacrificial price. The leaders of the nations accepted their offer for they too, desired the glory of power, wealth and riches. The gods demanded worship and with a heavy hand, they forced obedience, bringing terror to the ordinary people on earth who were the pawns in their game of thrones.

In the heavens, the Son of God saw what these rogue council members had done and like Joseph, he told the truth. God was forced into action; He entered into a civil war—God against these rogue gods.

This Son shared his desire with his Father to save mankind and return the nations under the rulership of God Almighty. God pondered his Son's wishes. He chose him and mortalized him. He became a "shoot" from the very top of a cedar from His garden in Eden, God planted it on the mountain heights of Israel (Ezekiel 17:22-23). This Son of God grew into a splendid cedar. His name is Yashuah. He is the angel of God who has worked with the people of Israel since their beginning. He is the tested stone; He is the Savior; He is the One who has been given all power in heaven and earth to restore all things; **He is King of kings, Lord of lords**. Together, the Father and His Son has been taking down these rogue sons and imprisoning them in the utmost lowest place inside the earth—in the pit.

But Israel, God's inheritance, has given God equal grief. Jerusalem, God's protectors of His truth, has become a useless vine and the two houses of Israel both rebelled worshipping the rogue gods, for they craved to be like the nations wielding power and might, accumulating wealth and riches over humility and service to God.

Symbolically, the erection of the green cedar tree at Christmas and decorating it is honoring the fallen cedars [leaders] in God's garden [government] of Eden [eternal harmony]. God will not tolerate treason. When ancient Israel refused to turn to their God, He purged them out of the holy land and the surrounding nations at that time witnessed the punishment of God's covenant people. They mocked them, as they watched a people cast out of their own land. God against gods, God's nation against the nations, it appeared that God was losing the battle having thrust His own nation out of His holy land.

For over three thousand years, most of the descendants of Israel have rebelled against God, but Christ throughout this time, like Joseph, was given a two-fold task: to preserve a remnant and to save lives by a great deliverance (Genesis 45:7). From this remnant a great work has been done, is being done, and a greater work will burst forth during the last of the latter days.

God promised Abraham that Israel would be His people. He continues to honor that vow. The nations of Israel will be the clay in His hands until He is finished working with them. It will take a time of great trouble, but that time of pain and stress will mold a people into humble, God-fearing people. Finally, after all these years, everything will be in place for them to shine and be the model nation God intended them to be from the beginning. God's work will not be in vain and will go beyond Israel, out into the whole world—even Egypt and Assyria.

"In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and the Assyrians will worship together. In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing on the earth. The LORD Almighty will bless them, saying, 'Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance'" (Isaiah 19:23-25).

A new royal, heavenly government is being established. Christ stands today as King of kings and Lord of lords—the only heir of the nations, but God has foretold of another heir—a faithful church who together with Christ will rule the kingdom—an everlasting kingdom that will never break but operate in harmony eternally.

God's civil war still rages in the heavens. It will be brought down to earth when Satan is thrown down. With him, Daniel identified three gods who will appear on the international stage.

"The king will do as he pleases.

- He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods [Yahuah, the Almighty God].
- He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed [Jacob's trouble, the punishment from God to all of the nations of Israel. Today, there are 12 nations that comprise of Israel. Collectively, they number in the hundreds of millions.] for what has been determined must take place [many in the nations of Israel have forgotten their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob].
- He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers [the rogue sons of God in the pit—the famous gods] or for the one desired by women [Christ, for many Jewish women hoped that they would be chosen to be impregnated and give birth to the Savior], nor will he regard any god [he is not intimidated by any of the existing sons of God that reside in the heavens],
- but will exalt himself above them all.
- Instead of them, he will honor a **god of fortresses** [she is well known in the ancient world. *"Ishtar, Goddess of the Tower, the goddess, or "Mother of Harlots," as she is called in Revelation 17:5, is found throughout scripture. She is the Canaanite Ashtoreth, the "Queen of Heaven" in Jeremiah 7:18, and the Diana of the Ephesians" of Acts 19:28. Though her identity changes, her purpose never does. She is the great "virgin queen" who gives birth to an immortal redeemer. In short, she is Satan's counterfeit of the Bible's redemption story.* <http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/3-5.htm>];
- a god unknown to his fathers he will honor [a new rebellion of sons of God is under way]. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a **foreign god...**"

(Daniel 11:36-39).

Jesus Christ has been given supreme power in heaven and on earth to overthrow this wave of rebellion. He will not fail. He will put all things in subjection—under the rule of God Almighty.

"Then Jesus came to them and said, '**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me**'" (Mathew 28:18).

"And **He put all things in subjection under His feet**, and gave Him as head over all things to the church" (Ephesians 1:22).

"And from His mouth proceeds a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and **He will rule them with an iron scepter**. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God, the Almighty. **On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords**" (Revelation 19:15-16).

“For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Christ], and through him [Christ] to **reconcile to himself ALL things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross**” (Colossians 1:19-20).

Christ will reign until all enemies are destroyed. “For He [Christ] must reign until He has put **all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death**” (I Corinthians 15:26).

“**He [Christ] will swallow up death for all time**, and the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces, and He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken” (Isaiah 25:8).

The final task for Christ will be to become subject again to Almighty God. “When he has done this, **then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him**, so that **God may be all in all**” (I Corinthians 15:25).

The civil war will soon come to an end. A new government will rise led by our supreme God Almighty, Christ as His body and Christ’s wife—today his church/bride, his body. The suffering of this world will finally come to an end. God Almighty will dwell with us. “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away” (Revelation 21:4). He will make for us a new home “a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea” (Revelation 21:1).



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The book of Ezekiel details the history of the civil war in heaven and on earth. All of God’s sons in His holy council have rebelled and will die like mere men—the ultimate shame. They were so mighty and mortals so weak and lowly by comparison. To be mortalized—made low and die like mere mortals is an utter disgrace. They stood so tall; they flew like mighty eagles

with such great power and strength, yet they fell into the lowest recesses of the grave. **Their positions will be filled by lowly mortals—repentant saints** who will be transformed into sons of the living God. They try to keep our future a secret from us; they try to keep us focused on this insignificant physical world. They will fail.

Repentant Israel and the nations of the world will sing.

Your Grace Still Amazes Me

by Phillips, Craig and Dean

My faithful Father, enduring Friend
Your tender mercy's like a river with no end
It overwhelms me, covers my sin
Each time I come into Your presence
I stand in wonder once again

Your grace still amazes me
Your love is still a mystery
Each day I fall on my knees
Your grace still amazes me
'Cause **Your grace still amazes me**

Oh, **patient Saviour**, You make me whole
You are the Author and the Healer of my soul
What can I give You, Lord, what can I say
I know there's no way to repay You
Only to offer You my praise

It's deeper, it's wider
It's stronger, it's higher
It's deeper it's wider
It's stronger, it's higher than anything my eyes can see.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich