

A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE REVELATION SEMINARS

THREE CRUCIAL POINTS 1260 YEARS PERSECUTION

THREE CRUCIAL POINTS

Three facts of utmost importance to God's people are established in Revelation 12:10-12 (1813). These facts are:

1. Jesus defeated Satan, the accuser of the brethren, at the cross.
2. All of us can overcome through the blood of Jesus and by witnessing.
3. The devil is infuriated because his time is short. We cannot expect him to behave like a gentleman. He is our bitterest enemy.

The message is that Jesus, who has defeated Satan, offers His matchless power to us as a free gift. With Jesus' power in our lives we cannot fail. Satan's fury need not affect us. He is a defeated foe. He was defeated in the war in heaven and cast out. He was defeated by Jesus at the cross and lost his dominion. He will be defeated legally in his case in the judgment and he will again be defeated when he attacks God's holy city. Finally, he suffers the defeat of being blotted from the face of the earth in the lake of fire. And, most wonderful of all, Jesus promises that he will be defeated in his bitter, grudge fight to destroy you and me. What a tremendous message of hope from Jesus!

1260 YEARS OF PERSECUTION

This period of tribulation is repeatedly mentioned in the Bible because it is the worst ever to face God's people, Matthew 24:21 (1439). It is referred to as 1260 days, 42 months, and 3½ times, or years, Revelation 12:6,14 (1813); 13:5 (1814); Daniel 7:25 (1311). All add up to the same — 1260 prophetic years. The two wings represent speed, Deuteronomy 28:49 (337). This tribulation is called, in Revelation 12:15 (1813), a flood of persecution. See Isaiah 59:19 (1096).

History is clear that the Papacy was the power which persecuted for 1260 years. The period began in 538 A.D. when Papal power became supreme in Christendom due to the letter of Roman emperor Justinian, which acknowledged the Bishop of Rome as the head of all churches. This letter became a part of Justinian's Code, the fundamental law of the empire. The period ended in 1798 when Napoleon's general, Berthier, took the Pope captive. At least 50 million Christians died for their faith during this period of persecution.