

The "War in Heaven" is a pivotal event in both Western Christian and Ethiopian Orthodox traditions. While they share the core narrative of a grand rebellion against God, the King James Version (KJV) and the Ethiopian scriptures (such as *1 Enoch* and *Jubilees*) provide different vantage points on its causes, numbers, and ultimate conclusion. Here is the breakdown of the war according to both textual traditions:

1. What Caused the War?

- **According to the KJV:** The root cause was **pride, vanity, and the desire for self-exaltation**. Drawing from the prophetic cross-references traditionally linked to Lucifer's fall, he sought to elevate himself above his assigned station. Isaiah 14:13–14 records his inner motive: *"I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God... I will be like the most High."* This internal rebellion culminated in an overt, cosmic coup against the sovereignty of God.
- **According to the Ethiopian Scripture:** While agreeing on Lucifer's pride, the Ethiopian tradition adds the element of **cosmic law-breaking and the corruption of divine order**. In *1 Enoch* and related Ge'ez literature, rebellion is defined as an entity attempting to build a throne higher than the clouds to rival the Almighty's power, combined with an abuse of heavenly mysteries. Later, a secondary wave of rebellion (by the Watchers) is explicitly caused by **lust and the violation of the boundary between the spiritual and human realms**.

2. Who Was Responsible?

- **According to the KJV:** The primary instigator and entity responsible is **the Dragon, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan** (historically identified with Lucifer prior to his fall). Revelation 12:7 states that *"the dragon fought and his angels."*
- **According to the Ethiopian Scripture:** The responsibility is distributed across specific ringleaders. While **Sataniel** (Lucifer's name in early Enochic traditions) is responsible for the primordial rebellion, the subsequent angelic war and corruption on earth are blamed on **Semyaza** (the military commander of the rebellious Watchers) and **Azazel** (who taught humanity weapons of war and vanity).

3. How Many Angels Were Involved?

The sheer scale of the conflict is one of its most striking elements.

- **According to the KJV:** The text explicitly notes that Lucifer successfully recruited **one-third of the heavenly host**. Revelation 12:4 states that the dragon's *"tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth."* Because biblical descriptions define the total number of angels as "innumerable" (Hebrews 12:22) or "ten thousand times ten thousand" (Daniel 7:10), this one-third accounts for millions of spiritual beings.
- **According to the Ethiopian Scripture:** The texts quantify the distinct factions tightly. For the *second* phase of the rebellion (the Watchers who descended to Mount Hermon), *1 Enoch 6* states there were exactly **200 high-ranking angelic leaders** who swore a mutual pact to rebel, leading their respective legions down with them.

4. How Did It End?

- **According to the KJV:** The war ended in a decisive, total military defeat for the rebels. God did not fight directly; instead, **Michael and his loyal angels fought the dragon.**

Revelation 12:8–9 records the conclusion:

"...and [the dragon] prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out... he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

- **According to the Ethiopian Scripture:** The end of the war is described with graphic, penal finality. The Almighty commands the holy archangels to execute judgment. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael bind the leaders of the rebellion. Azazel is cast into total darkness, buried under sharp, jagged rocks in the desert, and restricted until the "great day of judgment" when he will be cast into the fire. The remaining fallen host are bound in the deep valleys of the earth for seventy generations to await their ultimate destruction.