**Sermon Notes August 21, 2022**

**Series**: Revelation

**Sermon**: What Are We Waiting For?

**Scripture**: Revelation 12:5-9, Isaiah 9:6-7, Acts 1:8-9, Zechariah 12:10, 13:8-9, 14:1-5, Matthew 24:15-20, Luke 16:19-31, Genesis 6:7, Deuteronomy 4:19, 1 Kings 8:27

**Summary**: Satan is cast out of Heaven and let loose upon the earth. Do we fear eternal separation from God? Because we can have a personal relationship with Jesus, we have a direct line to God. Since Satan is currently under God’s authority there is nothing, he can do to you.

**Read**: Revelation 12

Last time we started our investigation of the woman and the dragon. The woman of course is Israel bringing forth the Messiah for the world… and the red dragon represented Satan and his efforts to revolt against God and prevent the birth of Jesus.

We’re going to find out that chapter 12 has some application for the church and… we need to respond.

1. **The Child – Jesus Christ**
   1. Revelation 12:5-6
      1. Isaiah prophesied that this would happen in Isaiah 9:6-7.
      2. Jesus was coming to save, bring God’s creation back to Him and to rule the earth.
      3. Jesus was raptured – Harpazo – caught up into heaven.
   2. Acts 1:8
      1. We are called to go into the world and talk about Jesus.
   3. Zechariah 12:10, 13:8-9, 14:1-5
      1. This will be fulfilled when Israel emerges from the protection that God provides during the second half of the Tribulation.
      2. 2/3 of Israel will be destroyed.
      3. Jesus confirms this promise personally in Matthew 24:15-20
   4. Israel will acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah during the second half of the Tribulation.
2. **The War in Heaven**
   1. Revelation 12:7-9
      1. The war that originally begun in the Garden of Eden will finally come to completion.
      2. Satan’s power will be confined to the earth.
      3. Satan and his Dominion of Darkness will be cast out of “heaven” by the archangel Michael.
   2. Our intended application to the war waging in Heaven
      1. As God used Michael to do His work, He is calling us to do His work too.
      2. God wants His people to reap the rewards of their work.
   3. Satan thrown down to earth.
      1. Right now, Satan has a place in the Heavens.
   4. What are the Heavens?
      1. The First Heaven.
         1. The atmospheric heaven meaning the visible, physical atmosphere around the earth. Described in Genesis 6:7
      2. The Second Heaven
         1. The Celestial Heaven referring to outer space… the sun, moon, and stars. This is where we find the Heaven of Heavens from Deuteronomy 4:19 or the heavenly spheres which are visible from earth.
      3. The Third Heaven
         1. This is where God resides, above the other two, just look to Hebrews 8 and 9.
         2. God is not limited to any of these we see that in 1 Kings 8:27.
   5. Be careful with the concept and myth of 7 and 10 heavens perpetuated in Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Gnosticism, and non-canonical Apocryphal texts such as the second and third book of Enoch.
   6. These facts are important.
      1. What does a life of eternal separation from God mean to you?
      2. Currently Satan is kept in check by the authority of God.
      3. Since we have God in our lives, there is nothing Satan can do to us.

**Application / Next Steps**

Today, we have access to God, because of what Jesus did on the cross. We have a direct line to God… and through this access to God we ought to have comfort and safety to act.

Those who are lost will not come to you, we need to go to them. This is the mission of the church, and this is where we need to spur one another on… bringing others into the kingdom.

Where will you be in the end?

How does Acts 1:8 apply to today’s message?

**Acts 1:8 (ESV),**

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth**.

Do we not each have a job to do?

What are we waiting for?