

# SALVATION IN SYMBOLS & SIGNS

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Corresponds to Program 50

Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture quotations are from the NKJV and KJV.

## THE VICTORY STUDY GUIDE

### Review

**D**eception is huge in the book of Revelation. The devil has been merchandising his lies against God since the time of his fall from heaven. God is seeking to protect us from the deception of the devil, who sold Eve his lies in Eden and continues to push those lies upon us today.

**Genesis 3:1-5** – “Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

There are at least three subtle deceptions that the devil is bringing against God in his conversation with Eve:

**God is a withholder** – God is withholding something from you.

**God is a controller** – God knows that you will be like Him and He doesn't want you to be like Him.

**God is liar** – God said you will surely die, but you will not surely die.

**Isaiah 14:12, 13** – “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine

heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.”

### The Devil's Word Over God's Word

The sides of the north in the Sanctuary were the location of the table of shewbread, representing God's Word and the 12 tribes of Israel. Lucifer wanted to sit in the place of God over the congregation of the angels. The devil wants his words to

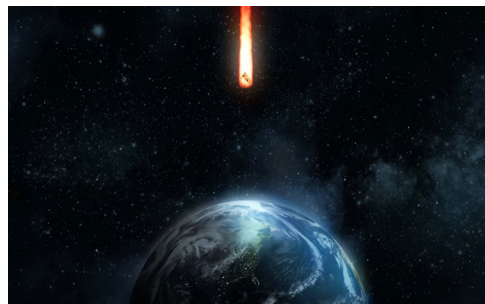
be obeyed over God's Word. Lucifer—the devil—ultimately comes to earth in the appearance of Christ and seeks obedience and worship in the place of Christ. The papal system is to the devil what John the Baptist was to Christ. It is preparing the way for the final deception of the devil, who wants his word to be believed over God's Word.

In the garden of Eden, the devil wanted Eve to believe his word over God's Word. In the wilderness of temptation with Jesus, the devil wanted his word to be believed over God's Word. And now in the very end of time, the devil is again seeking to have us believe his word over God's Word.

**Revelation 12:9, 10, 12** – “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which de-

ceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 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.”

“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



“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world...”

**REVELATION 12:9**

### KEY SCRIPTURES

**Genesis 3:3** YOU SHALL NOT EAT IT LEST YOU DIE

**Genesis 3:4** YOU WILL NOT SURELY DIE

**Revelation 12:9** DRAGON WAS CAST OUT

**Revelation 12:10** THE ACCUSER HAS BEEN CAST DOWN

come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.”

The application of these verses applies not only to the war that began in heaven when the devil was cast out, but primarily to this earth which, through our choice to believe the words of the devil in Eden, became his dwelling place. These verses point to the cross and the death of Christ.

Speaking of His death on the cross, Jesus says that this event will “cast out” the prince of this world, the devil. The devil was “cast out into the earth,” but Calvary will eventually end the devil’s reign on earth and he will be “cast out” for the final time.

As far as heaven is concerned, Calvary has already ended the great controversy about God’s character. Heaven rejoiced at Calvary because God’s character of love, justice, and self-sacrifice destroyed the misrepresentations of the devil, yet the earth is still under the deceptions of the devil. And since the devil has no more influence in heavenly realms, all his power of deception is focused on Planet Earth. Since the devil’s un-

masking at Calvary, he knows his time is short, and the great controversy between good and evil will end.

We look forward to the time when God’s character of love will be fully vindicated and none will be deceived by the false merchandising of the devil.

### Summary

The devil has been misrepresenting God’s character from the beginning of his war against God in heaven. The devil was physically cast out of heaven by Michael, but he brought his deceptions to Eve in Eden and they took hold. Our protection against the devil’s deceptions is the Word of God. In the Scriptures, we see the true picture of God’s character. This truth will finally cast the devil out of our hearts and minds, just as he has been cast out of the hearts and minds of the unfallen universe through the revelation of God’s amazing grace on Calvary. ★

### Questions for Review

1. How did the devil seek to deceive Eve in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What are two lies that he told Eve about God? a) \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What position is the devil ultimately seeking? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is our only safety against the devil’s deception? \_\_\_\_\_
5. In what way was the devil “cast out” at the cross? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Where is the devil’s focus now? \_\_\_\_\_

