

# CONTENDING FORCES

## ASSESSING THE STRUCTURE OF SATAN'S KINGDOM, PART 2

**Thesis:** One both side of the great controversy between good and evil, the forces involved are real, they possess authority in and over our world, and they are actively and aggressively contending over every man, woman and child.

### A Divine Territory Staked Out in The World

**Psalm 114**— **1**When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, **2**Judah became His sanctuary, and Israel His dominion. **3**The sea saw *it* and fled; Jordan turned back. **4**The mountains skipped like rams, the little hills like lambs. **5**What ails you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, *that* you turned back? **6**O mountains, *that* you skipped like rams? O little hills, like lambs? **7**Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob.

**Deuteronomy 32:1, 8, NLT**— **1**“Listen, O heavens, and I will speak! Hear, O earth, the words that I say!... **8**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 of angelic beings.

**Deuteronomy 32:9-12, Sep**—And His people Jacob became the portion of the Lord; Israel was the line of His inheritance. He maintained him in the wilderness, in burning thirst and a dry land; He led him about and instructed him, and kept him as the apple of His eye. As an eagle would watch over his brood, and yearns over his young, receives them having spread his wings, and takes them up on his back, the Lord alone led them; there was no strange god with them.

**Deuteronomy 32:15-17**— **15** Then he forsook God who made him, and scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation. **16** They provoked Him to jealousy with foreign gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. **17** They sacrificed to demons, not to God, to gods they did not know, to new gods, new arrivals that your fathers did not fear. **18** Of the Rock who begot you, you are unmindful, and have forgotten the God who fathered you.

### A Wall of Protective Custody

**Job 1:9-10, CEV**— **9**“Why shouldn’t he respect you?” Satan remarked. **10** “You are like a wall protecting not only him, but his entire family and all his property.”

**Zechariah 2:5**—For I, says the LORD, will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.

**Zechariah 9:8**—I will camp around My house because of the army, because of him who passes by and him who returns. No more shall an oppressor pass through them, for now I have seen with My eyes.

**Psalm 34:7**—The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

**Numbers 22:31**—Then the LORD opened Balaam’s eyes, and he saw the Angel of the LORD standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face.

**NOTE:** The seas symbolize the hostile forces of evil in the world (See Isa. 27:1; Dan 7; Rev. 13).

**2 Kings 6:17**—Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

### **A Storm Against The Wall**

**Isaiah 25:3-4**—**3**The strong people will glorify You; the city of the terrible nations will fear You. **4**For You have been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat; for the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm *against* the wall.

**Isaiah 30:13**—This iniquity shall be to you like a breach ready to fall, a bulge in a high wall, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant.

**Ezekiel 43:8**—When they set their threshold by My threshold, and their doorpost by My doorpost, with a wall between them and Me, they defiled My holy name by the abominations which they committed; therefore I have consumed them in My anger.

### **Contending Forces**

**Daniel 10**—**2**In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. **3**I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. . . . **12**From the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. **13**“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. . . . **20**Now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. **21**No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.

**Jude 9**—Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, “The Lord rebuke you!”

### **Moral Speak**

**Ezekiel 22:23-30, NRSV**—**24**You are a land that is not cleansed. . . . **25**Its princes within it are like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured human lives. . . . **30**And I sought for anyone among them who would repair the wall and stand in the breach before me on behalf of the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.

**1 Peter 5:8-9**—**8**Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. **9**Resist him, steadfast in the faith.

**James 4:7**—Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

**John 14:30**—The ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.

**Ephesians 6:10-12**—**10**Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. **11**Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. **12**For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

### **“Behold Your God”—Isaiah 40:9**