

WAR

*in the*

HEAVENLIES



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HEAVENLIES

B E N N Y H I N N



  
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**T**here is such a desperate need today for believers to understand the stakes involved in spiritual warfare, because the conflict of the ages continues to rage between the forces of good and evil, especially as we near the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to Scripture, this struggle is not against “*flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places*” (Ephesians 6:12).

Thankfully, believers need never face the Enemy in our own strength:

*It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.... I have pursued mine enemies, and overtaken them.... I have wounded them that they were not able to rise: they are fallen under my feet. For thou has girded me with strength unto the battle.* (Psalm 18:32, 37–39)

We know that “*greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world*” (1 John 4:4), but to understand the power available to us, it is crucial to go back to the beginning and discover the foundations of this universal battle that continues to grow more intense with each passing year.

I began this study after my first shocking encounter with the demonic realm. I knew I desperately needed to know more from God’s Word about what I had faced. Therefore, the *War in the Heavens Study Guide* you hold in your hands and the accompanying CD series is the result of over three and a half decades of battle-seasoned research.

What I have discovered is that the demonic world is real and dangerous, even deadly. As believers, however, we can have full confidence in knowing that our Supreme Commander has given clear instructions for what is required and what we must accomplish on the battlefield. Best of all, we can fight with the assurance that the war was won at Calvary and ultimate victory is on the way!

It is my prayer that God will touch your heart and mind as He blesses you with knowledge and wisdom that will empower you, bring you into a deeper walk with Him, expand your vision, and anoint you for the battles still to be fought!





# The Invisible Realm

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*  
Genesis 1:1

**W**hen I began my personal study of the war in the heavenlies, I did not begin with Genesis 1. I began with the New Testament and saw how Jesus dealt with devils. It is much more simple, however, to start at the beginning.

## Genesis 1:1

We read in the dateless past that Elohim created or brought something out of nothing, *hashambim*, which is translated in the King James Version as “heaven,” but in the Hebrew is “the heavens.” When you read this verse in the original language, you discover three crucial points:

1. **It is an ageless verse.** The Scripture says, “*In the beginning.*” The word *beginning* is the Hebrew word *bara*, which means “brought out of nothing.” “*In the beginning,*” the Hebrew says, *Barasheet Elohim bara et hashambim de et aharitz*, which is translated, “In the dateless past.” This dateless past could have been millions or billions of years ago. It really has no beginning, since nobody but God knows when the beginning really was.
2. **The Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—is introduced in this verse with the name Elohim.** In Hebrew any word that ends *-him* is plural.
3. **The Triune God created heavens, not heaven.** The Hebrew word *shambim* is plural. The Bible tells us that there are three heavens: the first heaven in Genesis 1:8 (our atmosphere), the second heaven in Ephesians 6 (where the principalities and powers of the air are today), and the third heaven in 2 Corinthians 12:2–4 (where Paul saw God).

## Genesis 1:2

*“And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”*

Something seems to be missing until you understand the Hebrew word for “was” is *haya*, which means “became.”

Whatever God creates or makes is perfect. Nothing that God ever does is shapeless, formless, empty, or void, as the King James Version implies with the word “was.”

The Scripture tells us that everything God does is perfect: “*He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he*” (Deuteronomy 32:4).

We also know that God created the world to be inhabited: “*For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else*” (Isaiah 45:18). Notice especially the words “created,” “formed,” and “made.”

He made everything perfect: “*He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end*” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Also notice: “*As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him*” (Psalm 18:30).

So if everything God made is perfect and beautiful, what happened between verses 1 and 2 of Genesis 1?

First, notice the remainder of Genesis 1:

- First day (verses 3–5): The word “let” is introduced in verse 3. It is not a word of creation; it is a word of permission. Therefore God permitted the light to shine. But from where did the light come? The sun, the moon, and the stars were not yet shining.
- Second day (verses 6–7): God divided the waters from waters, restoring (not creating) the atmosphere of the earth. The Hebrew word for “made” is *asa*. More literal translations would be “to mold” or “to form.” God was not building. He was simply restoring.
- Third day (verses 9–13): Again “let” is a word of permission, not creation. He permitted the dry land to appear. So we see that dry land was flooded, and on the same day, God permitted grass, herbs, and fruits to appear.
- Fourth day (verses 14–19): God restored the sun, the moon, and the stars.
- Fifth day (verses 20–23): God brought forth sea creatures and birds.
- Sixth day (verses 24–31): God brought forth beasts, livestock, and reptiles to fill the land, then He created man and woman.
- Seventh day (Genesis 2–3): God rested from His work, blessing and sanctifying the seventh day.

## Between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2

Let's go back. God created a perfect work, then the same work was "*without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.*"

What happened?

There was a time in history where God was so angry that He not only removed the mountains and overturned them in His anger, but He also shook the earth out of her place, commanded the sun not to shine, and sealed up the stars:

*Then Job answered and said, I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God? If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand. He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered? Which removeth the mountains, and they know not: which overturneth them in his anger. Which shaketh the earth out of her place, and the pillars thereof tremble. Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and sealeth up the stars. (Job 9:1–7)*

When did that happen? There is no indication in Scripture that it has taken place since Adam walked the earth, nor after Jesus returns, nor during the Millennium, nor even after the thousand-year period when God will destroy and then build a "*new heaven and a new earth*" (Revelation 21:1). God will never again seal the stars and put the heavens out of action.

We know that Job 9:8 speaks of restoration: "*Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea.*"

That is what happened in Genesis 1:2 when the Holy Ghost came walking upon the face of the waters.

A comprehensive study of the Bible points to the fact that between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2, Lucifer's rebellion took place, which led to the war between God and the devil and caused the destruction of the earth that God had created perfectly.

During that period, innumerable numbers of fallen angels who had joined in Satan's rebellion were bound with chains in the underworld. There were disasters that you and I could never imagine, nor will we understand completely until the day when we go home to heaven.

## A Pre-Adamic World

Let me take you back to the time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. According to the original Hebrew, the earth became formless and empty. We have that exact scene detailed later in the Old Testament:

*I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger. For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end. For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black; because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it. (Jeremiah 4:23–28)*

Jeremiah had a vision in which he saw the earth as an exact duplicate of Genesis 1:2. What he describes in the next verses reflects what is described in Job 9.

Birds are mentioned. The wilderness was fruitful. There were cities. There were inhabitants (see Isaiah 24:1) who are the demons we are still fighting today.

All of this existed before Adam and Eve?

Then everything was destroyed, yet God said, “*yet will I not make a full end*” (Jeremiah 4:27). In other words, God planned to rebuild and restore the earth to its original form.

What about the waters? When the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters (Genesis 1:9), no sun was shining. There was no warmth. The earth was a frozen ball of ice floating in space. Its destruction had been so sudden that scientists are still finding prehistoric animals frozen in ice with lush vegetation still inside their stomachs. They are still amazed at the rock formations and fossils that came from such a quick destruction.

Look at the pre-Adamic world described in Job 38. It includes angels rejoicing even as God laid out the foundations of the earth. Angels had already been created.

Job even describes the watercourse, ice, and a frozen earth (Job 38:25–30). This earth had been green and beautiful, then it was a massive ball of ice. Then God began His work of restoration.

When you read the Scriptures, see it with new eyes. Look at Psalm 104:4–8; it speaks of a pre-Adamic flood, for we are told that God rebuked the waters, and they began to separate. That happened in Genesis 1:8 when God restored the earth.

All this pre-Adamic destruction happened because of the war in the heavenlies.

## Lucifer's Rebellion

Isaiah 14 is filled with information about both Satan and the Antichrist. Look first at the description of Lucifer's downfall:

*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: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms. That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners. All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house.*

*But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet. Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned. (Isaiah 14:12–20)*

At the time Lucifer decided to rebel against God, during the pre-Adamic era, nations existed. Lucifer determined to be over all, even higher than the stars. What stars? These were not the stars that were created after Genesis 1:2; they were stars that sang, namely, heavenly angels. Job 38 also refers to the stars of heaven that sang together.

He wanted to be like the Most High, which is *El Elion* in the Hebrew. The first sin in the Bible was the sin of jealousy in Lucifer's heart toward God. He was cast down because of his rebellion.

Do you remember what we read in Jeremiah 4? The wilderness was the result of anger; God said the fruitful place became a wilderness. Who made it into a wilderness? Lucifer. He saw cities destroyed.

Look at Ezekiel 28:1–2: *"The word of the LORD came again unto me saying, Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas. Yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God."* This refers to the Antichrist, not to Satan. We know that because the Antichrist is called the prince of Tyrus.

But look at verses 12–19, where the devil is addressed and described:

*Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be anymore. (Ezekiel 28:12–19)*

This passage is loaded with information about the pre-Adamic world. Tyrus was a center of idolatry, and Satan is called the king of that center. He was full of wisdom. He was perfect in beauty. He was in Eden. He was covered with jewels. He built and created with musical instruments. He was the head of the worship of heaven. When he opened his mouth, an orchestra sang out of it. Lucifer was next in his position to the Godhead. He was honored above all other angels. Not only was he an archangel, he was a cherub. It was God's plan.

He was privileged to walk before the throne of God. He would sing to the Lord. A majestic voice of power and worship and glory would come out of him before God. His job was singing to God, worshipping God. He would worship the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost. He sang with such majesty and such glory. And God gave him the position of ruler over the earth.

He ruled one-third of the heavenly angels, and he had dominion over the earth. We don't know how long this lasted, but we do know that it was all during the pre-Adamic era.

There were kings on earth before Adam ever walked the earth. There were inhabitants, cities, and life on earth. That is why God told Adam to replenish the earth. Once it had been full, and it had become empty.

Ezekiel 28:18 refers to the fact that Lucifer had defiled the sanctuaries. Anybody with sanctuaries is a priest. He had many offices. He was a king who had a throne. He was a prophet who gave God's law to the nations. He was also a priest.

But he corrupted God's word to the inhabitants and kept their worship to himself. Rather than giving the worship of the earth back to God, he kept it. Rather than giving God's word to the inhabitants, he corrupted that.

Think about the influence of that one angel: he not only influenced the whole earth against God, but he turned every angel under him against God.

Think about the power of one angel who would convince one-third of all the heavenly angels that God should be overthrown and that heaven should be invaded!

### **The War in the Heavens Then and Now**

In this study, we need to keep in mind that if Satan was powerful and convincing enough to cause one-third of all the angels to join him in rebellion against God, we desperately need more than the angels on our side. We need the blood of the Lamb to stand against the Evil One. We need the Holy Ghost, for victory comes "*not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts*" (Zechariah 4:6).

If it were not for the blood of Jesus Christ and the presence of God in you, the devil would destroy you.

Now the Word of God is clear on the fact that Lucifer rebelled, invaded heaven, and was thrown out. Adam's fall gave back what God had restored and entrusted to the man He created. Therefore, today we are fighting an enemy who was once destroyed but has been restored by Adam himself!





# Creation and the Underworld

*And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it.*

Genesis 1:28

**G**od created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1), which was a perfect work. Then Lucifer fell and the earth was corrupted and destroyed (Job 9, Jeremiah 4, Isaiah 24:14, and Ezekiel 28). Then Genesis 1:2 comes perhaps billions of years later.

God restores the earth and uses the word “let”, which is a word of permission, not creation. He begins to restore the earth to its original perfection. After He finished restoring the world, He began to create again, not only animals, fish, and fowl, but also man.

## Replenish and Subdue

In Genesis 1:28, had God said, “Plenish the earth,” it would mean the earth had no inhabitants previously. But when God said, “Replenish,” He was saying, “Fill it up again.” After the flood, God said the same exact word to Noah: “replenish.”

Then the Lord said, “Subdue.”

Why would the word “subdue” be used if there was nothing to be subdued, no enemies present? When God said, “Subdue the earth,” He meant that enemies were still present and in rebellion.

Some people may think that Adam was told to subdue the animals, fish, and fowl. They were created under his control. The rebellion was the demonic world present on earth that was the pre-Adamic race that lived before the creation of man. That is where demons came from. Demons are not angels. Demons are the pre-Adamic race. We saw that in Isaiah 24 and Jeremiah 4.

So God said, “Subdue,” confirming the fact that rebellion existed. Adam was told to have dominion over animals, fowl, and fish. But the earth itself was to be subdued.

## Restoration Completed

By the end of Genesis 1 and the beginning of Genesis 2, God had completed the work of restoration and creation (each reference to “made” in the King James Version of the following passage is the Hebrew word for “restored”):