

TWO GLORIES ON EXHIBITION IN EARTH'S FINAL CRISIS. PART 7.

How Christ Glorified His Father on Earth

God's method of winning the great cosmic conflict against Satan is the method of revealing His *glory*, His *character of self-sacrificing Agape Love*, so that Satan's character of self-centered glory can be seen and exposed by being contrasted with His. God allows His intelligent creatures time to study and analyze the two governments, the two "*glories*", and to make up their minds which one they prefer. God's government of Agape Love is *eternal life*. Satan's self-centered government of self-exaltation is *eternal death*. Romans 8: 6.

The Son of God is the only Person in the Godhead and in the Universe who can reveal God's character or *glory*! Satan opposed the Son's revelation of God's *glory* in heaven. Satan even more vehemently opposed Christ's revelation of God's *glory* during His earthly ministry. But tried as he might he could not get the incarnate Son of God to be deceived or to buckle under any or all the pressure he, Satan, exerted. Christ as our representative Man remained, by free choice, absolutely surrendered to His Father and to the principle of *self-sacrificing Agape Love* and thereby not only defeated but *vanquished* Satan. Colossians 2:14, 15.

SATAN DEFEATED

"Christ did not yield up His life till He had accomplished the work which He came to do, and with His parting breath He exclaimed, "It is finished." [John 19:30](#). The battle had been won. His right hand and His holy arm had gotten Him the victory. As a Conqueror He planted His banner on the eternal heights. Was there not joy among the angels? All heaven triumphed in the Saviour's victory. Satan was defeated, and knew that his kingdom was lost. DA 758.1

"To the angels and the unfallen worlds the cry, "It is finished," had a deep significance. It was for them as well as for us that the great work of redemption had been accomplished. They with us share the fruits of Christ's victory. DA 758.2

"Not until the death of Christ was the character of Satan clearly revealed to the angels or to the unfallen worlds. The archapostate had so clothed himself with deception that even holy beings had not understood his principles. They had not clearly seen the nature of his rebellion. DA 758.3

"It was a being of wonderful power and glory that had set himself against God. Of Lucifer the Lord says, "Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty." [Ezekiel 28:12](#). Lucifer had been the covering cherub. He had stood in the light of God's presence. He had been the highest of all created beings, and had been foremost in revealing God's purposes to the universe. After he had sinned, his power to deceive was the more deceptive, and the unveiling of his character was

the more difficult, because of the exalted position he had held with the Father. DA 758.4

“God could have destroyed Satan and his sympathizers as easily as one can cast a pebble to the earth; but He did not do this. Rebellion was not to be overcome by force. Compelling power is found only under Satan’s government. The Lord’s principles are not of this order. His authority rests upon goodness, mercy, and love; and the presentation of these principles is the means to be used. God’s government is moral, and truth and love are to be the prevailing power. DA 759.1

“It was God’s purpose to place things on an eternal basis of security, and in the councils of heaven it was decided that time must be given for Satan to develop the principles which were the foundation of his system of government. He had claimed that these were superior to God’s principles. Time was given for the working of Satan’s principles, that they might be seen by the heavenly universe. DA 759.2

“Satan led men into sin, and the plan of redemption was put in operation. For four thousand years, Christ was working for man’s uplifting, and Satan for his ruin and degradation. And the heavenly universe beheld it all. DA 759.3

“When Jesus came into the world, Satan’s power was turned against Him. From the time when He appeared as a babe in Bethlehem, the usurper worked to bring about His destruction. In every possible way he sought to prevent Jesus from developing a perfect childhood, a faultless manhood, a holy ministry, and an unblemished sacrifice. But he was defeated. He could not lead Jesus into sin. He could not discourage Him, or drive Him from a work He had come on earth to do. From the desert to Calvary, the storm of Satan’s wrath beat upon Him, but the more mercilessly it fell, the more firmly did the Son of God cling to the hand of His Father, and press on in the bloodstained path. All the efforts of Satan to oppress and overcome Him only brought out in a purer light His spotless character. DA 759.4

“All heaven and the unfallen worlds had been witnesses to the controversy. With what intense interest did they follow the closing scenes of the conflict. They beheld the Saviour enter the garden of Gethsemane, His soul bowed down with the horror of a great darkness. They heard His bitter cry, “Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me.” [Matthew 26:39](#). As the Father’s presence was withdrawn, they saw Him sorrowful with a bitterness of sorrow exceeding that of the last great struggle with death. The bloody sweat was forced from His pores, and fell in drops upon the ground. Thrice the prayer for deliverance was wrung from His lips. Heaven could no longer endure the sight, and a messenger of comfort was sent to the Son of God. DA 759.5

“Heaven beheld the Victim betrayed into the hands of the murderous mob, and

with mockery and violence hurried from one tribunal to another. It heard the sneers of His persecutors because of His lowly birth. It heard the denial with cursing and swearing by one of His best-loved disciples. It saw the frenzied work of Satan, and his power over the hearts of men. Oh, fearful scene! the Saviour seized at midnight in Gethsemane, dragged to and fro from palace to judgment hall, arraigned twice before the priests, twice before the Sanhedrin, twice before Pilate, and once before Herod, mocked, scourged, condemned, and led out to be crucified, bearing the heavy burden of the cross, amid the wailing of the daughters of Jerusalem and the jeering of the rabble. *DA 760.1*

“Heaven viewed with grief and amazement Christ hanging upon the cross, blood flowing from His wounded temples, and sweat tinged with blood standing upon His brow. From His hands and feet the blood fell, drop by drop, upon the rock drilled for the foot of the cross. The wounds made by the nails gaped as the weight of His body dragged upon His hands. His labored breath grew quick and deep, as His soul panted under the burden of the sins of the world. All heaven was filled with wonder when the prayer of Christ was offered in the midst of His terrible suffering,—“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” [Luke 23:34](#). Yet there stood men, formed in the image of God, joining to crush out the life of His only-begotten Son. What a sight for the heavenly universe! *DA 760.2*

“The principalities and powers of darkness were assembled around the cross, casting the hellish shadow of unbelief into the hearts of men. When the Lord created these beings to stand before His throne, they were beautiful and glorious. Their loveliness and holiness were in accordance with their exalted station. They were enriched with the wisdom of God, and girded with the panoply of heaven. They were Jehovah's ministers. But who could recognize in the fallen angels the glorious seraphim that once ministered in the heavenly courts? *DA 760.3*

“Satanic agencies confederated with evil men in leading the people to believe Christ the chief of sinners, and to make Him the object of detestation. Those who mocked Christ as He hung upon the cross were imbued with the spirit of the first great rebel. He filled them with vile and loathsome speeches. He inspired their taunts. But by all this he gained nothing. *DA 760.4*

“Could one sin have been found in Christ, had He in one particular yielded to Satan to escape the terrible torture, the enemy of God and man would have triumphed. Christ bowed His head and died, but He held fast His faith and His submission to God. “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.” [Revelation 12:10](#). *DA 761.1*

“Satan saw that his disguise was torn away. His administration was laid open before the unfallen angels and before the heavenly universe. He had revealed himself as a murderer. By shedding the blood of the Son of God, he had uprooted himself from the sympathies of the heavenly beings. Henceforth his work was restricted. Whatever attitude he might assume, he could no longer await the angels as they came from the heavenly courts, and before them accuse Christ's brethren of being clothed with the garments of blackness and the defilement of sin. The last link of sympathy between Satan and the heavenly world was broken. DA 761.2

“Yet Satan was not then destroyed. The angels did not even then understand all that was involved in the great controversy. The principles at stake were to be more fully revealed. And for the sake of man, Satan's existence must be continued. **Man as well as angels must see the contrast between the Prince of light and the prince of darkness. He must choose whom he will serve.**” DA 761.3

According to Jesus, in John 17:4, He had glorified His Father and finished the work the **Father** had sent Him to do by manifesting, as a man in our fallen flesh, *perfect obedience* to every article of righteousness contained in God's law of unselfish Agape Love. He glorified God even under the unfathomable pressure of tasting and suffering the unbearable Spiritual, mental and physical agony of that first eternal death which He conquered and abolished because He could **not** be annihilated by it since He was innocent of sin and victorious over all Satan's attacks. However severe Satan had attacked Him, He exhibited **only** the attributes of God's Agape Love and never allowed any manifestation of the selfishness of our sinful flesh which He had taken on as our Substitute and Surety. **He therefore emptied our fallen humanity of self-centered thinking and allowed only the Love and righteousness of His Father to be manifested in thought, word and deed.** This victory He reproduces in His body, the church, and it will be fully revealed in the remnant of the woman's seed when **He** again *glorifies God* through that remnant during the final crisis and especially in the “time of Jacob's trouble”.

In our next lesson we shall by God's grace begin our search of the scriptures to find out **why the Son of God is the only person in the Godhead and in the Universe Who can reveal His Father's glory.** Such a study requires Spirit led diligence and careful and deep search into the Bible.

“.....the finder of heavenly treasure will count no labor too great and no sacrifice too dear in order to gain the treasures of truth.” {ST September 5, 1906, par. 3}

CLOSING GEM

“We cannot estimate the precious ransom paid to redeem fallen man. The heart's best and holiest affections should be given in return for such wondrous love.” AG 177.

Only then will we allow Christ to glorify God through us. Amen!