1). I am not sure what you believe concerning the bride fighting in the War in Heaven

Rev 12:7-8. Do you see the bride being in this war?

The reason I ask is because first of all I don't see the bride or Jesus being mentioned in this war. Second is because there is a Scripture in

Deut 24:5 " When a man hath taken a new wife he shall not go out to war neither shall he be charged with any business." If the wedding has just taken place and there is a war in heaven would this be the reason that the bride and Jesus are not mentioned in

There is no context to link these two verses of scripture together.

Rev 12:7-8? My thinking is that this is just another confirmation or Scripture that says the wedding has already taken place. If the bride is not fighting in this war would this also go along the thought that the battle is not ours? Look forward to hearing what you understand concerning this from the Scripture.

Rev. 12:5 And she brought forth **a man child**, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child **was caught up unto God, and to his throne**.

11 And **they overcame** him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

3:21 To him that **overcometh** will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Micah 5:3a “Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth”

The War in Heaven

Rev. 12: 7 *“And there was* ***war in heaven****…"*

I understand this text to be describing a real battle of violent dimensions that takes place in the heavenly realm. Without question, there is coming a time of “war” that will be the greatest conflict of all ages.

Right now, at this present time, every day of our life, we are in a battle. The Apostle Paul says, “***For we wrestle****… against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.*” Every time that the Lord does something for us, or reveals truth to us, the devil will contend for it. He will attack from every angle and cause you to doubt (if possible) that which God is doing. This is especially so in this end-time.

Rev. 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

Many are giving up truth in this day because of the battle, the struggle, the conflict, to take the way of least resistance; supposedly the easy way is the right way. However, I want you to know there is **an awful awakening** coming to the Church in the Tribulation Hour.

The Church comes to this awakening after the Bride (the Man-Child; the Overcomer) has been caught up to God and to His throne, and they have been left behind to go into the first three-and-a-half years of the Tribulation.

There have been many battles, but **this is war**, the last great conflict, when the devil is cast out of heaven.

Rev. 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

* There was a battle in Eden when the devil deceived Eve and man lost his position with God.
* There was a battle in hell when Christ fought and overcame the hosts of hell. He now has “*…the keys of hell and of death.*”
* This conflict that we are now contemplating is not just a battle, but a war.

Men as over comers (The Man-Child) with the help of Michael and his angels, lay claim to the fullness of redemption, overcome the devil and gain the rights to the throne.

Those that are of a skeptical mind ridicule the idea of a literal war. They are astonished that reasonable men could believe in such an event and pass it off as mere fiction. I am personally astonished that reasonable, thinking men cannot believe the truth as it is recorded in God’s holy, infallible, immutable and eternal Word.

Others believe that this is a mere poetical and exaggerated account of certain moral conflicts in the history of the Church on earth. Again, we must believe the Bible to be the Word of God that is free from error and exaggeration. Otherwise, if it has even the slightest hint of exaggeration or error, it is not worth the paper upon which it is written.

II Tim. 3: 16 *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”*

The meaning of the word “*inspiration”* means “God breathed.”

II Pet. 1: 21 *“For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”*

Rev. 12: 9 *“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent called the devil, and satan, which deceiveth the whole world:”*

There are some that teach we are not to believe this was an actual event, but a sort of a summary of the prolonged battle between good and evil. There are several things that we need to remember in understanding this great event.

First, this is not a record of history.

This is a book of prophecy with events that will take place after the recording of the Revelation.

It is a divinely inspired record that John received while he was in the Spirit on the Lord‟s Day. “*The Lord’s Day*” has to do with end-time events and the judgment of God. This is not a prolonged battle between good and evil. All these events take place in a relatively short period of time, approximately seven years.

Rev. 22: 18, 19 *“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”*

It is best to take heed to this warning. Remember, this is a divinely inspired revelation that states very clearly, “*And there was war in heaven.*” If the Bible states infallibly, “*And there was war in heaven,*” then we have no choice but to believe it as stated.

This is a literal war fought in the heavenly realm between the dragon (satan; the devil) and the “Man-Child” who is supported by Michael and his angels.

Heb. 1: 14 *“Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”*

**I. The Cause of this War**

**1. The Enthroning of the “Man-Child”**

Rev. 12: 5 *“And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.”*

The “Woman” (the Church) is pictured in the preceding verse as travailing in birth to bring forth a “Man-Child” destined to rule all nations. The dragon stood before the “Woman” who was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child.

The birth, in which the Woman labors to bring forth the child, is the birth into immortality by both resurrection and translation.

The saints of old that died in faith, not having received the promise but were persuaded of it, will be resurrected and included with the overcomers in the translation.

The Scripture clearly states that they, without the overcoming company, could not be made perfect.

Heb. 11: 39, 40 *“And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that* ***they without us*** *should not be made perfect.”*

This birth is “*…the manifestation of the sons of God*” which is referred to in Rom. 8: 19.

The devil is determined to stop the “Man-Child” from going to the throne.

Therefore, there is reason to believe that **all** the power and strength of the adversary with his angels **are** positioned to prevent the “Man-Child” from going to the throne. With the dominion of death broken, and the reign of satan broken, satan loses his “place” (position).

*“…And her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.”*

**2. Lucifers’ Place**

What was his place?

**1) A Place of Light – Isa. 14: 12**

*“…O Lucifer,* (O day star) *son of the morning…”*

**2) A Place of Wisdom – Eze. 28: 12**

*“…Full of Wisdom…”*

**3) A Place of Beauty – Eze. 28: 12**

*“…Perfect in Beauty”*

**4) A Place of Perfection – Eze. 28: 15**

*“Thou wast perfect in thy ways…”*

**5) A Place of Power – Isa. 14: 16; Heb. 2: 14**

*“…Made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;”*

The devil has “*the power of death*.” Death is an enemy that shall be destroyed.

I Cor. 15: 26 *“The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.”*

Lucifer was the highest order of all God‟s creation, occupying the closest position to God.

Though he has defaulted on this position, he still occupies this position until someone takes it from him.

Therefore, the “War in Heaven” is over the “Man-Child” going to the throne to take the position Lucifer had. Rev. 12: 7, 8 says the devil and his angels fought, “*…And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.*” Michael and his angels fought on behalf of the “Man-Child.”

Heb. 1: 14 *“Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?”*

Rom. 16: 20 *“And the God of peace shall bruise satan under your feet shortly…”*

**II. The Forces of This War**

**1. Michael and His Angels**

Michael is believed by some to be Christ. If this was true, why would Jude 9 be stated as it is?

Jude 9 *“Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”*

The Lord Jesus Christ does have His angels, but there is nothing in this fact that proves that an Archangel does not have his angels, as well. In Dan. 10: 13 Michael is called *“…one of the chief princes…”* Therefore, there must be others of the same rank.

Michael is referred to by this name in the Holy Scripture five different times as a proper name, denoting a distinct angel of high rank. According to Jewish teaching, Michael is only one of the seven Archangels; and of the seven he is believed to be chief.

**2. The Dragon and His Angels**

Rev. 12: 7 *“…And the dragon fought and his angels,”*

There stands opposed to God and His people, a great malignant kingdom, a vast empire of evil.

Eph. 6: 11, 12 *“…The wiles of the devil. For we wrestle 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.”*

The devil‟s angels are those that kept not their first estate but followed satan in revolt against God.

Jude 6 *“And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation…”*

These that revolted against God have become the devil‟s angels that will one day be cast into the fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Matt. 25: 41 *“…Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire,* ***prepared for the devil and his angels****:”* These angels did not abide in the truth. They of their own free–will revolted against the authority and rule of heaven, and became the enemies of God and His Kingdom.

The devil himself is referred to in Scripture as “*the prince of this world,*” “*the prince and power of the air,*” and “*the god of this world.*” He is called here in Rev. 12 “*the great dragon,*” “*that old serpent,*” “*the devil*” and “*satan.*”

**3. The “Man-Child” - The Bride - The Overcomers**

Rev. 12: 11 *“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.”*

The War in Heaven is with, and on behalf of, the “Man-Child.”

The Overcomers are born again, Holy Ghost baptized believers. Angels do not understand the virtue and redeeming grace of the blood.

I Pet. 1: 12 *“…Which things the angels desire to look into.”*

The “Man-Child” overcomes through the power of the blood and by the Word of their confession. Just as the Lord Himself overcame the assaults of the devil by the Word, so the “Man-Child” will overcome by the Word. The defense that the “Man-Child” gives is the “Logos” (the Word), saying the same thing that God says.

God is preparing and training a people for battle, in these last days. This whole vision revolves around the truth that there is going to be a war in heaven.

The Overcomers which have overcome in this present time will be the Overcomers that fight and become victorious in this “*War*.”

The Overcomers (the Man-Child; the Bride of Christ) are headed for the throne. Rev. 3: 21 says they will have to fight with the forces of darkness that will contend with them in the heavenly realm for this position on the throne. All those that want to be there (to attain the throne) must learn to overcome **now** so that they will be prepared to “Overcome” in the “War in Heaven.” Many in the Church are being overcome in this Laodicean Age.

Rev. 3: 17 *“Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:”*

Rev. 3: 20 *“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock:* ***if any man*** *hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.”*

It is no longer the message to the whole Church, but to individuals in the Church that will hear His voice, respond to His call, and open the door.

The whole Church will not respond; therefore, they will not be found worthy to escape all these things (the Tribulation Hour).

Lk. 21: 36 *“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”*

The whole Church will not be numbered with the “Overcomer,” nor will they attain to the rights of the throne.

Rev. 3: 21 *“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.”*

Jesus said:

Matt. 24: 12 *“And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”*

Today, the Church as a whole has, like Adam, gone to sleep. While Adam slept, God performed an operation and took out a rib. From this rib that was taken out of the body of Adam, God made a bride. God is performing an operation on the Church while she sleeps and is taking, as it were, a rib and making a “Bride” for His Son.

**III. The Nature of This War**

**1. Spiritual and Not Physical**

All the forces on both sides engaged in this “war” are spiritual. Even the “Man-Child” must be changed and dominated by the “Spirit,” not by the “Flesh.”

I Cor. 15: 50, 51 *“Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God…we shall all be changed,”*

I Cor. 15: 54 *“So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.”*

The nature of the “war” is revealed in the weapons used to gain the victory. *“…They overcame him* (the devil) *by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of their testimony…*”

**2. There is No Loss of Life**

**1) This is a Spiritual “War”**

This war is fought in the realm of the Spirit.

Eph. 6: 12 *“For we wrestle 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.”*

There is no bloodshed – no killing – no loss of life.

**2) This is a War of Words**

The nature of the “war” is seen in the dragon using words of accusation against the Overcomer.

Rev. 12: 10 *“…Which accused them before our God day and night.”*

He is the accuser of the brethren. He hurls accusations at them before God using insults and lies. The substance of these accusations are: “They are not fit, they are not worthy, they have broken Your laws, they have sinned against You.”

“Kategoros” – “Accuser” – to speak against in a tribunal – to use words of accusation

Rom. 8: 33, 34 *“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, Who is even at the right hand of God, Who also maketh intercession for us.”*

The Overcomer, by the use of words, overcomes. *“…They overcame him* (the dragon) *by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of their testimony;”*

**3) There is Loss of “Place” or Position**

The devil loses his place, or position, by being defeated by the “Man-Child,” with the support of the angels.

II Cor. 10: 4 *“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;”*

Rev. 12: 8 *“…Neither was their place found any more in heaven.”*

**3. It is a War of Faith and Knowledge**

Rev. 12: 11 *“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the Word of their testimony;”*

It is the “*War*” of believing saints who are supported by angels against a malignant and hellish intellect inflamed with diabolical hatred and rage. This is the same as the conflict of Christ with the devil in the wilderness, where the devil attacked His faith and His understanding. *“If thou be the Son of God.”* Christ never questioned the fact that He was the Son of God. The Overcomer (the Man-Child) must have knowledge of the **truth** and exercise faith in the **truth** without wavering, to defeat the devil.

**IV. The Outcome of This “War”**

**1. The Dragon is Defeated**

With all his wisdom and power, and all the fury of his hosts, he ends in defeat.

Rev. 12: 7, 8 *“…The dragon fought and his angels, And* ***prevailed not****;”*

Rev. 12: 9 *“…The great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil…”*

The dragon and all his hosts are no match for the “Overcomer.”

I Jn. 4: 4 *“Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world.”*

In the past the devil has been very successful in deceiving and leading both angels and man astray. However, in this “*War*” he meets his own rejection and defeat.

Every evil charge, which he hurls at “the Man-Child,” is overcome. Every accusation is defeated and discovered to be lies, and to be false. It is impossible for the devil to find a flaw or weakness in God‟s covenant of eternal life to every true believer.

**2. The Dragon Loses His “Place”**

Rev. 12: 8 *“…Neither was their place found any more in heaven.”*

Isaiah the prophet saw in vision the devil‟s defeat.

Isa. 14: 12 *“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground…”*

Lk. 10: 18 *“I beheld satan as lightning fall from heaven.”*

Their “place” was not left empty – their “place” was found no more. Someone had taken that position and that someone is the “Man-Child” (the Overcomer; the Bride of Christ). The devil and his angels not only fail in preventing the “Man-Child” from reaching the throne, but they lose their place and power.

**3. The Dragon is Cast Out**

Rev. 12: 9, 10 *“And the great dragon was cast out*… *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.”*

There is rejoicing in heaven over this glorious event, but it is “*…woe to the inhabiters of the earth…*”

Rev. 12: 12 *“Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.”*

The record states that the devil and his angels are “*…cast out into the earth.*” The devil‟s place will now be limited “*to the earth and the sea.*” The devil will be allowed freedom on the earth for seven years and it will be “*…woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea…*”

**4. The “Man-Child” is Enthroned**

The Woman (the Church) “*…brought forth a Man-Child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.*” The “Man-Child” sits on the throne reigning and ruling with Christ.

Rev. 3: 21 *“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.”*

The Kingdom of God has its chief revelation in the dethroning of the dragon and the enthronement of the Overcomer (the “Man-Child”) The Bride of Christ.

This War in Heaven is fought and won just before the Wedding takes place.