

“Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven.”

Revelation 12:7-8 NLT

[lectio] // REVELATION 12:1-12

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

And we think wars on earth are bad! Imagine the wars that happen in a spiritual realm, in heaven. You don't think humans feel the effect of heavenly wars? I'm sure it either causes or releases earthly chaos, and I'm sure if we were able to map out the heavenly wars on some kind of timeline, they would correspond to actual wars or releasing of evil world religions or philosophies. I wonder if one of the major heavenly wars lines up with the Babylonian captivity - because that one was a doozie! I also wonder what wars are currently happening in heaven now, on our human timeline of course? There must be massive wars concerning the middle east, and huge swaths of conflict happening in geographical areas like China and Africa and Russia. Where the light of Christ is exploding with an unstoppable brilliance. I wonder if the war over the United States is just a small skirmish that introduces constant chaos, confusion, hatred and disunity? Are we seeing the end of the U.S. as some predicted? Are we seeing the implosion of selfishness consuming our ideals and convictions? We need no outside enemy, for the enemy is within.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I DO NOT desire to be at war with you, my brothers and sisters nor the world that you have so loved! I do not desire to be selfish or stubborn in my patriotism, culture nor stuck in a past that didn't work. I want the light of Christ to burst in, on and through my life - to my family, my church, my nation and my world. I want to be that light in darkness, not a quippy, hashtag in my culture. I want to create paths of peace and be a warrior for the simple, the fatherless.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root