

Session 5: Your Enemy in Focus

Note: These questions were pulled from the *The Overcomers Bible Study Guide* curriculum, which you can purchase at the link on the series home page. For the best group experience, order books for everyone in your group.

CONNECT

Get the session started by choosing one or both of the following questions to discuss together as a group:

- What is something that spoke to your heart in last week's personal study that you would like to share with the group?

OR

- What is your favorite movie depicting a war or battle scene? Do you prefer historical battles, science fiction scuffles, or superhero showdowns?

WATCH

Watch Session 5: *Your Enemy in Focus* (20 minutes).

Now discuss what you just watched by answering the following questions.

1. What is the significance of the woman in John's vision? How does the birth of her child and the appearance of the dragon represent the war between God and Satan?
2. Which of the three creatures described—the dragon, the beast out of the sea, or the beast out of the earth—stands out to you the most? What does it evoke in you?
3. Do you agree that Revelation 12–13 forms the central theological axis of Revelation? How would you summarize this big idea in a sentence or two?
4. You are living in the midst of a cosmic spiritual war zone. Given this, what priorities do you need to realign? What changes can you make to strengthen your faith?
5. John states that the relentless attacks of the enemy call for “patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of God’s people” (Revelation 13:10). What does it mean for you to stand against the enemy’s attacks with patience and endurance?

[illegible]

People today have their own ideas about evil and whether or not the devil even exists. But for believers in Christ, the vision that John relates in Revelation 12–13 leaves no doubt that Satan is alive, active, and exerting all the power that he can muster on this earth. These images can feel unsettling, disturbing, and frightening. However, even as we see our enemy in focus, we must remember that Jesus has already won the battle against him! We have God’s Spirit within us, empowering us as Overcomers. So take a few minutes to consider your response to this cosmic overview in Revelation 12–13. Use the questions below to help guide you in this reflection.

What image, detail, or description disturbs you the most in these chapters? Why?

How do you respond to the fact that Jesus, through His death and resurrection, has already defeated this enemy? How does this awareness change the way you view Satan and his demonic forces?

What is one way you see the spiritual battle described in these two chapters of Revelation operating in your life right now? In the world at large?

[illegible]

PRAY

End your time by praying together as a group. As you pray, thank God that you have nothing to fear from the enemy because Jesus has already won the victory over the devil and his schemes. Ask God to continue to protect and guard your heart as you consider the cosmic spiritual battle going on around you. Ask if anyone has prayer requests, and then write them down so that you and your group members can continue to pray about them in the week ahead.

The Overcomers Bible Study Guide

© 2024 Matt Chandler

Published in Grand Rapids, Michigan, by HarperChristian Resources. HarperChristian Resources is a registered trademark of HarperCollins Christian Publishing, Inc.

Requests for information should be sent to customercare@harpercollins.com.

ISBN: 978-0-310-16534-7 (softcover)

ISBN: 978-0-310-16535-4 (e-book)

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.Zondervan.com. The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.®

Scripture quotations marked ESV are taken from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked TLB are taken from The Living Bible copyright © 1971 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

Italics in Scripture quotations are the emphasis of the author.

Any internet addresses (websites, blogs, etc.) and telephone numbers in this study guide are offered as a resource. They are not intended in any way to be or imply an endorsement by HarperChristian Resources, nor does HarperChristian Resources vouch for the content of these sites and numbers for the life of this study guide.

All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, scanning, or other—except for brief quotations in critical reviews or articles, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

HarperChristian Resources titles may be purchased in bulk for church, business, fundraising, or ministry use. For information, please e-mail ResourceSpecialist@ChurchSource.com.

Published in association with Yates & Yates (www.yates2.com).

First printing March 2024 / Printed in the United States of America