

A The controversy begins in Heaven. Ezekiel 28:2, 12-19; Isaiah 14:12-14.

- ❖ The first question when studying the controversy between good and evil is: If God created everything, did He create evil too?
- ❖ The Bible tells that a cherub named Lucifer was the origin of evil. That cherub was created perfect with no evil at all.
- ❖ He was created perfect and free, and he chose to give in to pride and to aspire to be like God.

B The Earth is affected. Genesis 3:1-7.

- ❖ However, she decided to believe the serpent instead of her Creator. And Adam shared her sin!
- ❖ In that moment, humans became part of the controversy, and we chose the wrong side.
- ❖ We face the same decision every day, either to obey or disobey God. We must choose between life and death.

C Battles in Heaven and on Earth. Revelation 12.

- ❖ War in Heaven (I). Satan rebels and takes the third of the angels with him. They are expelled from Heaven (v. 4)
- ❖ The Church is harassed by Satan (v. 4)
- ❖ Jesus overcomes and ascends to Heaven (v. 5)
- ❖ War in Heaven (II). Satan is thrown to Earth (v. 7-9)
- ❖ The Church is persecuted for 1,260 years and flees to the “desert” (v. 6, 14)
- ❖ Satan persecutes the Remnant (v. 17)

D The controversy within the Church. Revelation 12:13-16.

- ❖ That prophecy covers a period between year 538 and 1798.
- ❖ During that period, those willing to study the Bible and live according to God’s will were harshly persecuted.
- ❖ God never abandoned them. They were sustained by Jesus’ words: “I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20)
- ❖ We are also sustained by that promise every day. We are “more than conquerors” through Jesus (Romans 8:31-39)

E The last battle. Revelation 12:17.

- ❖ God has prepared a faithful Remnant from the universal Church. They keep God’s commandments and they’ll be the aim of Satan’s last attack.
- ❖ Which commandments do they keep?
- ❖ Jesus summed them up in loving God and our neighbor (Matthew 22:37-39). That involves keeping all the commandments of the Law (Deuteronomy 11:1)
- ❖ The Adventist Church began as a prophetic movement in the End Time (Revelation 10). Its name contains the characteristics of the remnant church.