

Heaven our Forever Home

Rev. 12 (NLT)



Then I witnessed in heaven an event of great significance. I saw a woman (**Israel**) clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars (**the twelve tribes of Israel**) on her head. ² She was pregnant, and she cried out because of her labor pains and the agony of giving birth.

³ Then I witnessed in heaven another significant event. I saw a large red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, with seven crowns on his heads (**Satan**). ⁴ His tail swept away one-third of the stars in the sky (**angels**), and he threw them to the earth. He stood in front of the woman as she was about to give birth, ready to devour her baby (**Jesus**) as soon as it was born.

⁵ She gave birth to a son who was to rule all nations with an iron rod. And her child was snatched away from the dragon and was caught up to God and to his throne. ⁶ And the woman fled into the wilderness, where God had prepared a place to care for her for 1,260 days.

⁷ Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. ⁸ And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. ⁹ This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens,

“It has come at last—

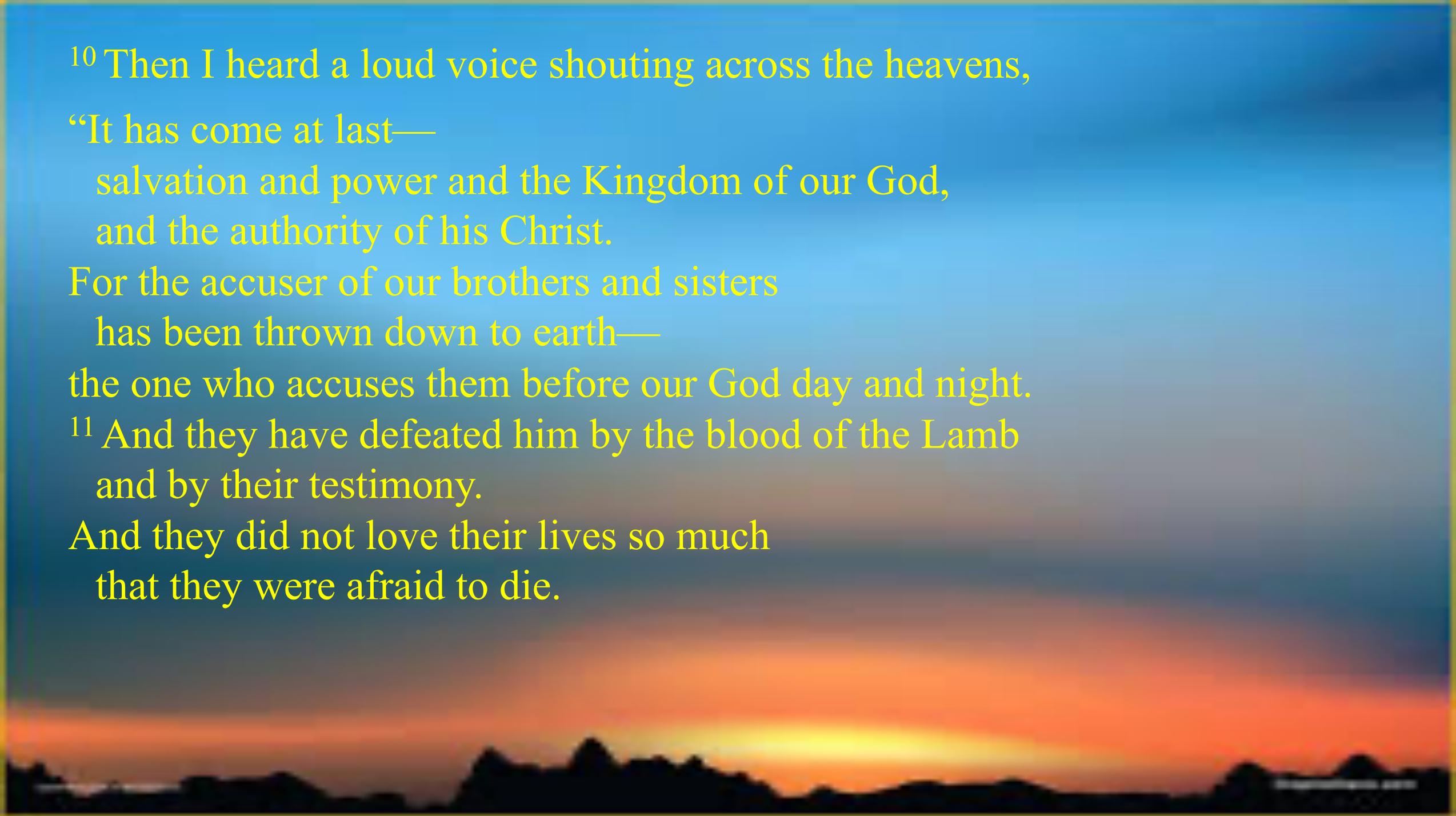
salvation and power and the Kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters
has been thrown down to earth—

the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

¹¹ And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb
and by their testimony.

And they did not love their lives so much
that they were afraid to die.



¹² Therefore, rejoice, O heavens!

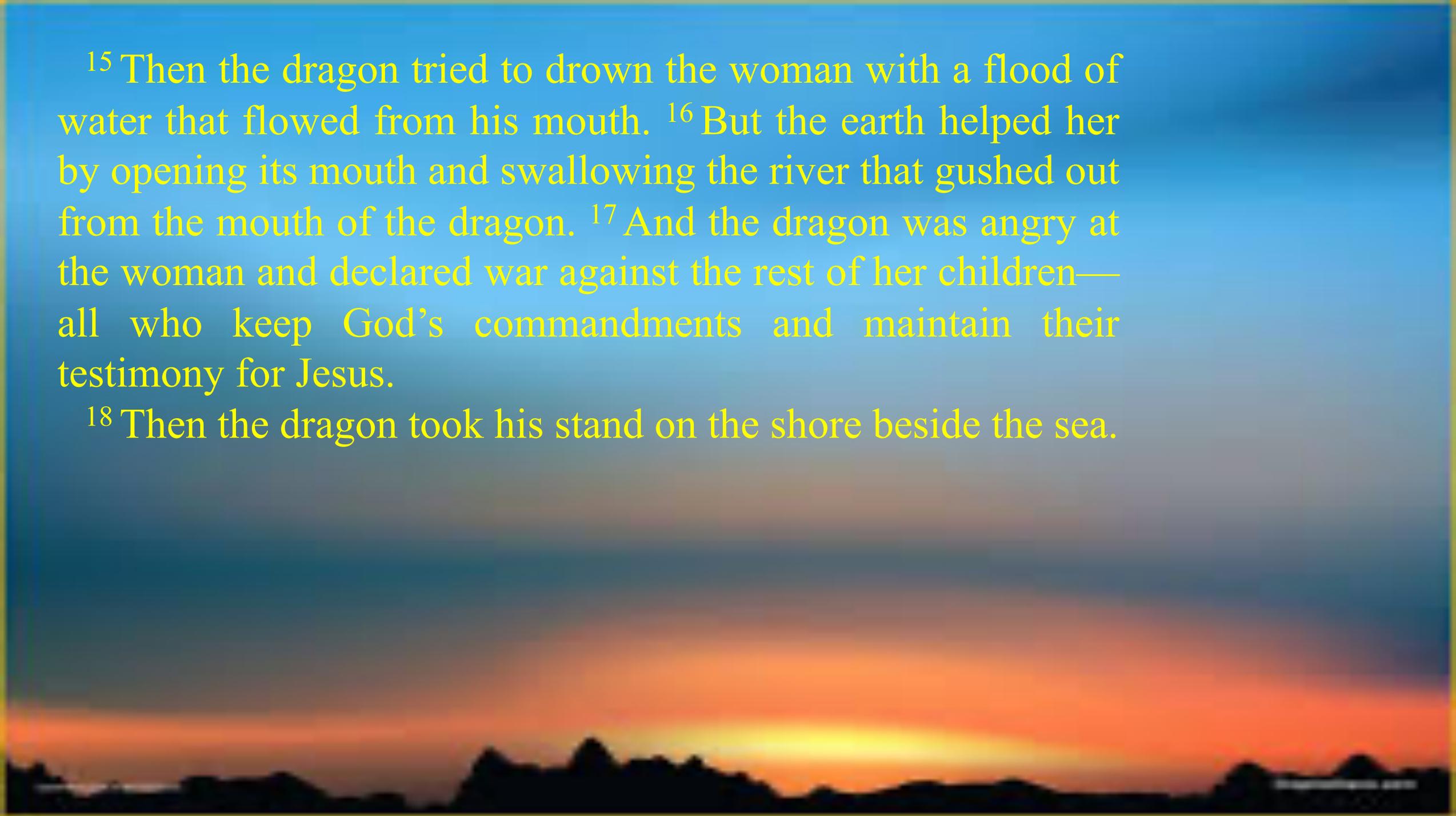
And you who live in the heavens, rejoice!

But terror will come on the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you in great anger,
knowing that he has little time.”

¹³ When the dragon realized that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴ But she was given two wings like those of a great eagle so she could fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness. There she would be cared for and protected from the dragon for a time, times, and half a time.

¹⁵ Then the dragon tried to drown the woman with a flood of water that flowed from his mouth. ¹⁶ But the earth helped her by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that gushed out from the mouth of the dragon. ¹⁷ And the dragon was angry at the woman and declared war against the rest of her children—all who keep God's commandments and maintain their testimony for Jesus.

¹⁸ Then the dragon took his stand on the shore beside the sea.



Spiritual Warfare 101

One War – Two fronts

A – On Earth

B – In Heaven

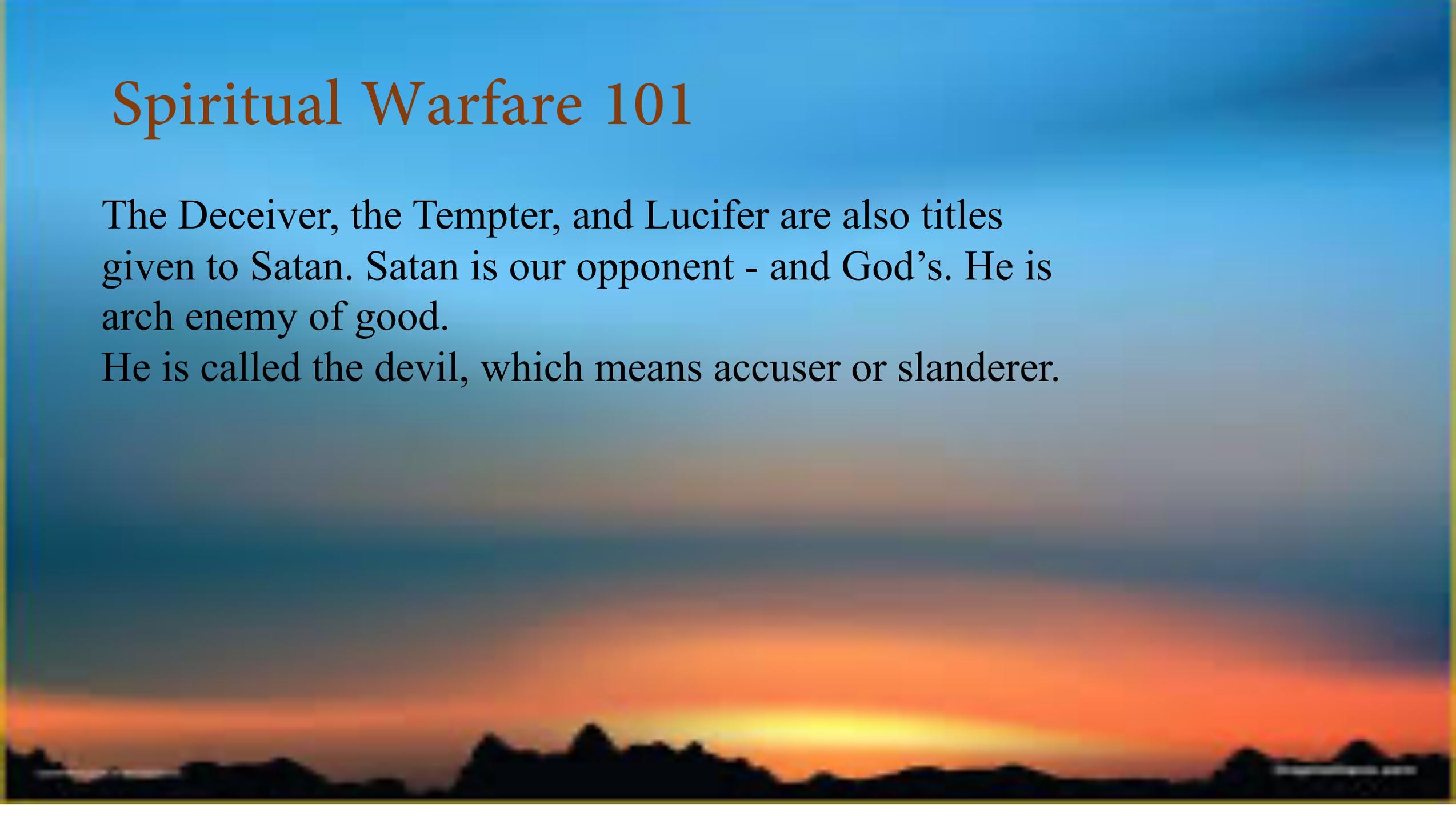
Spiritual Warfare 101

Satan is known as our adversary (I Peter 5:8).
He is the accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12:10).
He is called the devil, which means accuser or slanderer. He is known as a roaring lion, (I Peter 5:8) a liar, and the father of lies (John 8:44).
His Hebrew name, Abaddon, means destruction. Apollyon, his Greek name, means destroyer. Beelzebub - the ruler of demons.

Spiritual Warfare 101

The Deceiver, the Tempter, and Lucifer are also titles given to Satan. Satan is our opponent - and God's. He is arch enemy of good.

He is called the devil, which means accuser or slanderer.



II. War in Heaven

A. War against God's angels

B. Accuses children of God before God

C. Hinders the prayers of God's children

Daniel 10: 1-20 (NLT)

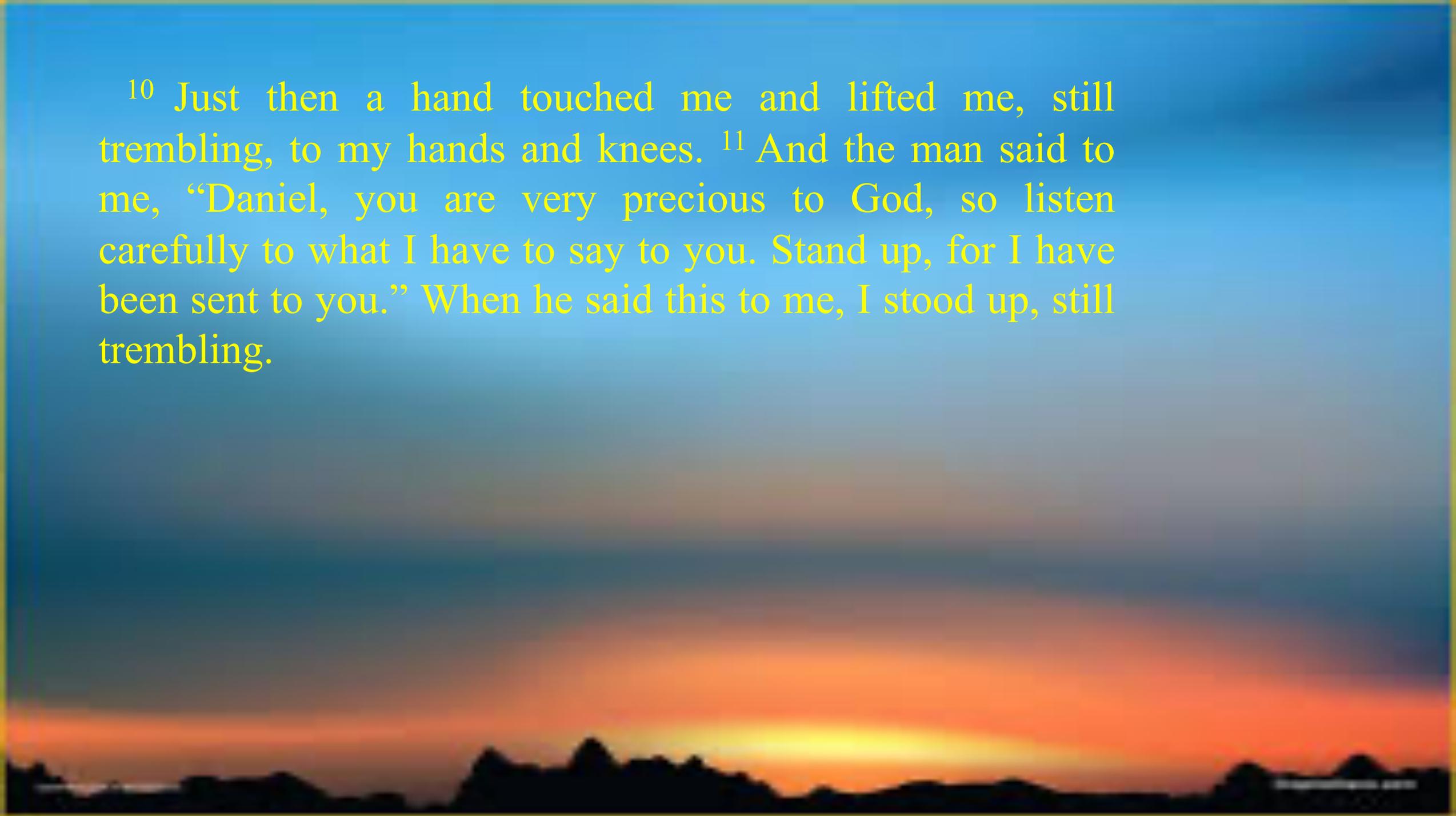
In the third year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) had another vision. He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future—times of war and great hardship.

² When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks. ³ All that time I had eaten no rich food. No meat or wine crossed my lips, and I used no fragrant lotions until those three weeks had passed.

⁴ On April 23, as I was standing on the bank of the great Tigris River, ⁵ I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist. ⁶ His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people.

⁷ Only I, Daniel, saw this vision. The men with me saw nothing, but they were suddenly terrified and ran away to hide. ⁸ So I was left there all alone to see this amazing vision. My strength left me, my face grew deathly pale, and I felt very weak. ⁹ Then I heard the man speak, and when I heard the sound of his voice, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground.

¹⁰ Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees. ¹¹ And the man said to me, “Daniel, you are very precious to God, so listen carefully to what I have to say to you. Stand up, for I have been sent to you.” When he said this to me, I stood up, still trembling.



¹² Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. ¹³ But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia. ¹⁴ Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come....”

²⁰ ...He replied, “Do you know why I have come? Soon I must return to fight against the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia, and after that the spirit prince of the kingdom of Greece will come. ²¹ Meanwhile, I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one helps me against these spirit princes except Michael, your spirit prince.)

