

## **The Devil and the End Times**

Rev 12:9, 12–13, “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. Therefore rejoice ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants 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. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.”

In the above verses, the apostle John warns of the persecution that the woman (the church) will face at the hands of the dragon (the Devil). Discussion of the end times as it pertains to the young believer in the New dispensation is both pertinent and critically important as we see history rushing forward to that end of history when Christ will return.

1. Eschatology is the term that means the study of the end times. Why is the study of the end times important for our young people? What are signs that you, as a young person, see that we are in the end times? What are specific current events that you see are the work of the devil?
2. Knowing our enemy is very important. Based on scripture, what do we know of Satan? By what names is Satan known to us? What do his many names tell us about Satan?
3. The devil’s attacks are numerous and varied (1 John 3:8; Eph. 6:12). What are his attacks in the lives of young people? In your own life?
4. How does he attack our churches? How does he attack your own personal congregation? Is a strong denomination like the Protestant Reformed churches a target for his attacks? How are we vulnerable to his attacks?
5. Where do we find our comfort facing such a terrible foe whose attacks are so varied and whose minions are so numerous?

6. In Ephesians 6:10–18, we read of putting on the whole armor of God. How do we prepare our defenses against the attacks of the devil upon our churches? In the lives of young people? In your own life?
7. 2 Thess. 2:3: “Let no man deceive you by any means, for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition.” The son of perdition refers to the antichrist. Please describe your understanding of the antichrist and the role that he will play in the persecution of the church. (Rev. 13).