

WAR OF THE WORLDS

AND THE BATTLE FOR TRUTH – Lesson 1



The “War of the Worlds” is a science fiction novel written by H.G. Wells about an attempted invasion of Earth by beings from another Planet, beings with far greater intelligence and more advanced weapons.

The invasion was intended to eliminate mankind and conquer Earth because their older, smaller planet had reached the “last stage”. It was written between **1895 and 1897**.

In **1938**, a radio broadcast of the same title, directed and narrated by Orson Welles, caused a sensation by convincing many listeners and the general public that an invasion was underway.

In **2005**, Steven Spielberg’s movie “War of the Worlds” had Tom Cruise running for his terrestrial life.

Welcome to the Battlefield – man your battle stations!

James 4:1 “What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your **desires that war** within you?”

Psalm 144:1 “Praise be to the **LORD** my Rock, who trains my **hands for war**, my fingers for battle.”

Jude 3 -"Earnestly **contend for the faith**, once for all delivered to the Saints!

In **military warfare**, as well as in Spiritual warfare, it is vital that we **(1)** identify the enemy, **(2)** scout out its strengths and weaknesses, **(3)** devise a plan or strategy to defeat the enemy, **(4)** and ensure that we are adequately arm & equipped with the right weapons for Battle.

Ephesians 6:11 -Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the **spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms....**

Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

MIDWAY - JUNE 4,1942 – Japanese torpedo planes were spotted diving towards the USS aircraft carrier **Hornet** -' the captain sounds the alarm...**GENERAL QUARTERS, GENERAL QUARTERS...All hands, man your battle stations, this is not a drill!**

84 years ago. Evidence of a brutal battle was finally discovered, 3.5 miles beneath the Pacific Ocean, the aircraft carrier **Hornet's** final resting place

Ladies & Gentlemen - We are at War - In every combat situation, certain steps must be taken before engaging the enemy. Here are three vital steps we need to know!

First – We must identify the Battlefield – There is a spiritual war being fought, and this war began **NOT** in the Pacific Ocean, but **in a Perfect and sinless Paradise** -**Genises 2:15–3:15.**

This protracted battle --continues, openly waged throughout every generation, every nation, town, every schoolhouse, the People's House, and tragically, in many church houses!

Second – We need to identify the two Combatants in this spiritual battle (1) The first combatant is the archenemy of GOD, a.k.a., Lucifer, Satan, the Devil, (2) and GOD is the second combatant.

Genesis 3:15 "...I will put enmity (strife) between you (the serpent, and the woman Eve) between the serpent's seed –and **"the seed of the woman"** For He _____ (the promised seed) --shall bruise you, the serpent, on the head, (a mortal wound) and you (the serpent) shall bruise Him --in His heel."

Third - We need to identify our primary weapon of warfare ---**the TRUTH**, "...Jesus said, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life,

Jesus is the Truth, and this knowable, revealed **TRUTH**, is the Infallible, inerrant, all-sufficient Word of God.

John 17:14,17 "...Jesus said --I have given them Your Word; and **the world hates them, because they're not of the world**, even as I am not of the world...v17 "Sanctify them through the **TRUTH**, for Your Word is Truth!

WHO is telling the TRUTH? –a.k.a , The eternal battle: God's truth **vs** Satan's lies?

The primary mission of the enemy of the souls of all men and women --is to attack God's people (the offspring of the seed of the Woman), and **to discredit** God's revealed **TRUTH** relentlessly, Satan and his lies.

We have identified the LIAR - "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father – For he (Satan) was a murderer from the beginning, and he does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him, for whenever he speaks, **he speaks a lie**, he speaks from his own nature **for he is a liar and the father of lies"** John8:44

The Battlefield has been Identified - In the 2nd and 3rd chapter of Genesis... Of how mankind was catapulted into depravity, sin, and judgment – **it all began with a conflict**, a struggle over **"who's telling the truth"**!

Fast forward - We are **living in a world** consumed with competing truth claims. Almost daily, we are bombarded with declarations that one thing is **true** and another is **false**!

Richard Dawkins --is a prominent atheist; he is known as one of the 4 Horsemen of the New Atheism. He made his case for atheism in his book, "The God Delusion."

- **Question** --How do we sift through all of these 21st-century claims?
- **Questions of** --How did the Earth begin, and what is right to you, might be wrong for me, therefore, there is no right or wrong
- **Questions** --About pluralism, with its many beliefs, religions, many ways to GOD, said Oprah...**Jesus can't be the only way**

To answer such questions, we need some sort of norm, a reliable standard to which we can appeal! Everyone has some sort of ultimate norm, a standard to which they appeal

- **Some people** --wrongly appeal to reason, experience, and logic to adjudicate competing truth claims.
- **Christians have historically** --rejected all of these competing claims as the ultimate standard for knowledge.
- **Instead**, God's people have universally affirmed that there is only **ONE** final arbitrator, the supreme court standard: **God's Word!**
- **However, we are not the first generation to face this challenge of competing truth claims; in fact**, Adam and Eve faced the very same dilemma at the very beginning!

Genesis 2:17. God clearly and distinctly said to them, **"You shall surely die"** if they were to eat of the fruit of the tree **of the knowledge of Good and Evil**

On the other hand, the serpent said the exact opposite: **"You will not surely die"** Gen 3:14.

Truth vs Satan Lies, and all the answers to what is right and wrong are found in only one Source, God's Word!