

"THUS SAITH THE LORD..."

FREE GENERAL NEWSLETTER

Encouraging people to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

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And I, If I Be Lifted Up From The Earth, Will Draw All Men Unto Me (John 12:32)



Why is there a Superhero craze?

One producer of the superhero movies and shows said that as long

as the public is eating it up, they will produce them. According to *The History of Comic Books*, as early as the 1800's, people were fascinated with superheroes. Why? It is the same reason given for the "peace" movement of the 1960's. It is an apparent failure on God's part, specifically the cross, and it is up to us human beings to figure out a way to bring civility to this immoral planet. The peace sign itself is a broken cross symbol. God is thought to be all but non-existent or leaving us to our own.

Superheroes provide a way of escape. Just about everyone believes that society is getting worse, and that it is going to take a miracle to pull us out. Seeing that God is permitting these things, people are impatient and want to do things themselves. Hence, the door is open for a superhero, not realizing that this chaos is all part of God's overall plan of love.

There is a battle going on

Revelation 12:17 *And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

The dragon, or Satan according to verse 9, has declared war among those who obey God. You know them because they obey His commandments and the testimony of Jesus.

What is at stake? *"And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him"* (1 John 4:16). It is God's character of love.

Satan rebelled in heaven. God could have destroyed Satan on the spot but then all would obey out of fear. But God wants us to serve Him out of love. *"If ye love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15). So God needs to allow all to choose which side to be on. One

side is *"that man of sin"* (2 Thessalonians 2:3) and the other is *"the righteousness of God"* (2 Peter 1:1). But right now much of the world believes that a little indulgence is all right and still be able to enter heaven. Many Christians do not hate sin.

To allow us to choose, sin has to run its course. Sin has to appear so sinful that those finally saved for eternity will never question God's mercy and love. Superheroes in the movies, on television, as well as in print interrupt this plan. Superheroes are to curb evil and bring peace and security to this planet. Superheroes inadvertently steal something from God. *"I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust"* (Psalms 91:2). Although it is a fantasy, the fact that people flock to be entertained reveals that it would be neat to have a real superhero among us.

And they steal a lot more

Since *"[there is] no new [thing] under the sun"* (Ecclesiastes 1:9) that means that the abilities superheroes possess are abilities that God actually has. Therefore, through various mediums, Satan is redirecting people's thoughts.

Who is mighty? Mighty Mouse, Superman, or God? *"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty"* (Revelation 1:8).

Who has a sense of the future? Spiderman with spidy sense or God? *"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times [the things] that are not [yet] done"* (Isaiah 46:10).

Who performs incredible feats? Incredible Hulk or God? *"Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?"* (Acts 26:8).

Who seems to be able to see all things? Superman with x-ray vision or God? *"If I ascend up into heaven, thou [art] there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou [art] there"* (Psalms 139:8).

WHO ARE WE?

We are not a church but rather a ministry, encouraging church attendance, but not as blind pew warmers but rather as searchers of a TSTL — "Thus Saith the Lord"

The "Thus Saith the Lord..." General Newsletter is published monthly by "Thus Saith the Lord..." Ministries

MISSION STATEMENT:

To strengthen the faith in God's Word by enabling you to have a "Thus Saith the Lord..." for all that you believe.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

PO Box 10607
Harrisburg, PA 17105

717-249-8785 (TSTL)

WWW.TSTL.NET

Info@tstl.net

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Do You Have A TSTL For That???

If someone asked you "why do you believe that or why do you do that" could you give them an answer from the Bible — a TSTL?

Hosea 4:6 *My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.*

UPDATES FOR WWW.TSTL.NET

- ▶ All newsletters are now available in PDF format online!
- ▶ Online Bible Lessons have been double proofed up to and including the fourteenth lesson, *Marked Sealed and Delivered*.

ONLINE BIBLE STUDIES SO FAR!

- 📖 The Coming New World Order
- 📖 The Great Red Dragon
- 📖 The Seed of the Woman
- 📖 On the Eve of Armageddon
- 📖 Nailing It To His Cross
- 📖 Revelation's Book of Life
- 📖 The Hour of God's Judgment
- 📖 Jesus, Beelzebub?
- 📖 The Issue That Divides the Entire World
- 📖 The Greatest Cover Up
- 📖 Antichrist and 666
- 📖 Revelation's Two Witnesses
- 📖 The Dragon With Lamb-like Horns
- 📖 Marked, Sealed, And Delivered

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Who watches out for creatures, including the creatures of the sea? Aquaman or God? *"Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father"* (Matthew 10:29).

Who is able to fly? Superman or God? *"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight"* (Acts 1:9).

Who has better aim with an arrow? Green Arrow or God? *"But God shall shoot at them [with] an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded"* (Psalms 64:7).

Who has things to use at his disposal? Batman or God? *"For every beast of the forest [is] mine, [and] the cattle upon a thousand hills"* (Psalms 50:10).

Who has the light? Green Lantern or God? *"And God said, Let there be light: and there was light"* (Genesis 1:3).

Who can do things with their mind? Wonder Woman or God? *"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 2:5).

Who can move instantly? Flash or God? *"For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be"* (Matthew 24:27).

Who can heat things up? Superman with heat vision or God? *"And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire"* (Revelation 16:8).

Who is able to blow air in a manner that accomplishes good? Superman with super breath or God? *"God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged; The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated"* (Genesis 8:1-3).

What are the youth to be? Teen Titans or examples for God? *"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity"* (1 Timothy 4:12).

Yes, Superman appears to be one of the most popular of Superheroes. But after checking both Marvel and DC Comic websites, it appears that there are quite a few superheroes on the list with all sorts of abilities, not to mention the villains with their super ability for evil.

But consider something else.

Where does the character Superman get his strength? From the sun. There is a sly form of sun worship.

Where do many of the other heroes get their strength, such as, Aquaman, Incredible Hulk, and

Spiderman? From a fluke experience, which is a subtle form of evolution.

Most villains are also never completely conquered, nor will Satan be in the minds of many. Many strange concepts are believed about hell. Is God able to rid the universe of sin or not? *"For thus saith the Lord GOD; When I shall make thee a desolate city, like the cities that are not inhabited; when I shall bring up the deep upon thee, and great waters shall cover thee; When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the pit, with the people of old time, and shall set thee in the low parts of the earth, in places desolate of old, with them that go down to the pit, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living; I will make thee a terror, and thou [shalt be] no [more]; though thou be sought for, yet shalt thou never be found again, saith the Lord GOD"* (Ezekiel 26:19-21).

Conclusion

The website for DC Comics refers to these superheroes as gods. *"Thou shalt have no other gods before me"* (Exodus 20:3). With all the wars, deaths, disease, thefts, threats, and problems of the world, it is not time to turn to an imaginary god or to even look for some great human being to solve our problems. *"In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me"* (Psalms 56:11).

If after this you still desire a superhero, let me turn your eyes to Hebrews 11. By *"faith ... the worlds were framed by the word of God; Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice; Enoch was translated; Noah... prepared an ark, Abraham... went out, not knowing whither he went; Sara herself received strength to conceive seed; Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau; Jacob... blessed both the sons of Joseph; Joseph... made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; Moses... refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; the walls of Jericho fell down; Rahab perished not; and... for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and [of] Barak, and [of] Samson, and [of] Jephthae; [of] David also, and Samuel, and [of] the prophets."*



HAVE YOU BEEN BLESSED?

 If this newsletter is a blessing to you, please consider sending a love gift to help further the work. More blessed are those who give.

This ministry can no longer survive without the financial support of it's readers—Thank you!

DO YOU HAVE A TSTL FOR THAT?

The purpose of these Bible studies is to help you seek for a TSTL—"Thus Saith the Lord..." for all that you believe. May you go forward in this study with that goal.

Righteousness

1. If we keep judgment and do righteousness, what are we? **Psalms 106:3**
2. If we do righteousness, what are we? **1 John 2:29**
3. If we do righteousness, what are we? **1 John 3:7**
4. If we do not do righteousness, whose are we? **1 John 3:10**
5. What happens to all the righteousness we do, even if it out numbers the unrighteous acts, if we choose to partake of iniquity? **Ezekiel 18:24**
6. Where is the source of righteousness? **Romans 5:21**



Think On These Things

Servants of Righteousness

"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members [as] instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members [as] instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

(Romans 6:12-18)

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

As It Was In the Beginning

1. How does Jeremiah see the earth? **Jeremiah 4:23** "I beheld the earth, and, lo, [it was] without form, and void; and the heavens, and they [had] no light."
2. What does Jeremiah see tremble which is the beginning of the seventh plague (see Revelation 16:17-20)? **Jeremiah 4:24** "I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly."
3. How many people are living on earth at the time of Jeremiah's vision? **Jeremiah 4:25** "I beheld, and, lo, [there was] no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled."
4. What happened to all the eagles and vultures that feast on the lost when Jesus returns in Revelation 19? **Jeremiah 4:25** "I beheld, and, lo, [there was] no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled."
5. What causes all the destruction, fruitful places becoming wilderness, and cities being utterly destroyed? **Jeremiah 4:26** "I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place [was] a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, [and] by his fierce anger."
6. How do we know that following the destruction at the second coming, a period of time will exist? **Jeremiah 4:27** "For thus hath the LORD said, The whole land shall be desolate; yet will I not make a full end."

JANUARY 2007

**Superheroes—
Super Plan of
Satan**

(Main article)

**War On Poverty,
When Do We
Declare Victory?
What Is the Exit
Plan?**

(Questions &
Answers)

ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH

(Daniel 10:21)



QUESTION #1—

In the 1960's, a war on poverty was declared. It was a movement by the United States to wipe out poverty and the welfare system was created. When will victory be gained or shall we pull our troops out?

ANSWER #1—

Evidently you are using terminology in regards to the war in Iraq. Since victory is not apparent at this time, talk is about pulling out. But the use of the phrase, "War on Poverty" is legitimate.

According to popular understanding and an online resource, "The War on Poverty was first introduced by Lyndon B. Johnson during his State of the Union address on January 8, 1964. Legislation proposed by Johnson was designed in response to the poverty of over 35 million Americans that year and followed difficult economic conditions associated with a national poverty rate of around 25%. The

War on Poverty speech led Congress to pass the Economic Opportunity Act, a law that established the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) to administrate the local application of Federal funds targeted against poverty."

But to directly answer you question, "When will we gain the victory?" Never. *"For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always"* (Mark 14:7).

Even the Old Testament makes that fact. *"For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land"* (Deuteronomy 15:11).

The reason the Bible states the same thing in both testaments shows that God is the same yesterday, today, and always (Hebrews 13:8). God never changes (Malachi 3:6). He also knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10).

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Send to TSTL, PO Box 10607,
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