

WHEN TWO LIONS MET

By Keith Greer

We commonly think of the lion as the king of the jungle. Can you imagine two lions locked in a fierce battle? About 2,000 years ago two lions met in a life and death struggle. Let us examine this battle and its outcome.

Who were the two lions? Satan, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8) From the beginning of time he has been maiming and seeking to kill men, Genesis 3:1-6; John 8:44. Christ, "But one of the elders said to me, Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." {Revelation 5:5} Christ came to fight with Satan, 1 Timothy 1:15.

God planned this battle. When sin came into the world it was made necessary for something to restore the fellowship broken by the Satan and sin, Genesis 3:15.

It was an eternal plan, Ephesians 3: 11. The salvation of the whole world hung in the balance of this battle, 2 Timothy 2:10. Both of the participants in this battle knew the stakes were high!

When did they meet? Met in the wilderness. This was a forty day battle in which Christ defeated Satan by refusing to give in to his temptations, Matthew 4:1-10. Met during Christ's personal ministry. The character of the man Jesus was attacked constantly, Luke 7:34. His authority was also under attack, Matthew 21:21-23. In each of these battles Jesus was the victor in the conflict! Met in the garden of Gethsemane. Our Lord was betrayed by a trusted friend, Matthew 26:36-57. Condemned to death by false witness, Matthew 27:25. Yet, Christ beat him again when He overcame the grave. He was declared to be the Son of God with power, Romans 1:4; Hebrews 2:14,15.

Are you thankful that our Lord left the glories of heaven to meet this lion in battle? The outcome of this battle is why we have the promise of eternal life. If He is not on your side - you will be defeated in this life! Get on the winning side with the Lion of Judah! ***