

**The Enemy Strikes Back**  
**BLESSED: Living A Life God Blesses**  
December 14, 2025

Notes

**Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion**

**1. Read Matthew 2:1-12 and 16-18.**

In your experience, when a new baby has been born in your family or to a close friend, what emotions did you feel and how did you respond?

What was the response of the wise men to the appearance of the star and the birth of Jesus?

How did Herod react to the news of a newborn king? What would move a man to such a response?

**2. Read Revelation 12:1-4.**

This passage describes what was happening behind the nativity scene, in the spiritual realm. How does this passage add deeper meaning and understanding to the story of Jesus' birth for you?

**3. Read 1 John 3:8.**

Why is the dragon/devil threatened by the birth of Jesus?

Was Herod just a jealous, insecure, maniacal king who felt threatened by word of the birth of a new king? Connect the dots between the Revelation passage and the story in Matthew 2. How is what happens in the earthly story revealing a deeper spiritual battle?

How have you experienced the reality of spiritual battles behind some of your earthly struggles?

**4. Read John 16:33 and John 1:4-5.**

What was the ultimate outcome of the battle that began in Bethlehem? What encouragement does that give you as you face spiritual battles today?

Where are the dark places in your life that need the Light of Christ this holiday season?

How might you remind yourself this week to look for the Light in the darkness?