

The Book Of The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter Twelve

Israel In The Tribulation

Focus Verse: **Revelation 12:12**

“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.”

I. Lesson Review – We have seen in Chapters 1 through 11...

- Jesus Christ Our High Priest in Heaven (Chapter 1)
- Church History played out before it ever occurred (2-3)
- The Rapture of the Church, and the Description of Heaven (4-5)
- The Judgment of the Seven Seals (6)
- The 144,000 Witnesses (7)
- The Judgments of the Seven Trumpets (8-9)
- The Little Book (10)
- The Rebuilt Jewish Temple, and the Two Witnesses (11)

We have studied quite a lot of territory, and at this point, we are half-way through!

II. Lesson - Israel In The Tribulation (12:1-17)

CONTEXT: At this point, we have completed a trek through the events of the tribulation as described with the judgments of the Seven Seals, then the Seven Trumpets (chapters 8-11), and are starting back through this period of time called Daniel’s Seventieth Week of seven years for the third time as described through the Seven Personages.

A. The Three Wonders (12:1-6)

1. The Sun-Clothed Woman (12:1,2)

- a. Roman Catholics say that this is Mary and Jesus
- b. Protestants say that this is the Church and the Gospel
- c. Scripture points the Bible Believer to the following conclusion:
 - 1) Identifies the sun, moon, and stars (Gen 37:9-11) as what? _____
 - 2) Identifies the wilderness (12:6; Cf Hos 2:14,15) – where? _____
 - 3) Therefore this “woman” is _____. It is referred to as a “woman” throughout the Old Testament.
- d. This woman will flee to the “wilderness” (12:6), and be fed there miraculously for 1260 days (exactly _____ years)!

2. The Great Red Dragon (12:3,4)

- a. This “symbol” is clearly identified in 12:9 and 20:2

NOTE: The so called “mythological” Dragons of fairy tales most often have “wings” (as Cherubim do: see Ezek 20), and are laughed at as being “fables”. But your King James Bible is more advanced than any scientific book on the face of this planet. See the following references:

- 1) Job 41 - for a description of a creature called _____
 - 2) Isaiah 27:1 - for a reference to Leviathan being a crooked _____
 - 3) Revelation 12:9 and 20:2 for this Serpent being THE _____ HIMSELF!!!
- b. His seven heads (12:3) - Seven _____ of History! All picturing the kingdom of the anti-christ.
 - 1) Gen 10:9 - Nimrod (_____). The first kingdom.
 - 2) Exodus 5 - Pharaoh (_____)

- 3) 2 Kings 18 - Sennacherib (_____)
- 4) Daniel 3 - Nebuchadnezzar (_____) See also Jer 51:34 for him being a “dragon”!
- 5) Daniel 5:28 - Darius (_____)
- 6) Daniel 10:20 - Alexander the Great (_____)
- 7) Luke 2:1 - Caesar Augustus (_____)!!! The last kingdom

Remember anything about a “Holy Roman Empire”? The Bible refers to it as “Mystery, Babylon”

NOTE: Did you notice how that Babylon is in the *beginning* (1), *middle* (4), **and** *END* (7)!?

- c. The third of the stars sent to the earth (12:4)

Ah, visitors from outer space!!! We say that we live in the “space age” don’t we? Luke 17:26,27 tells us that as it was in Noah’s days (remember the sons of God coming down to earth in Gen 6:1-4?), so shall it be again! See Job 38:7; Matt 25:41; Eph 6:12. Carl Sagan would be proud!

3. The Man-Child (12:5)

- a. A child of the woman (Israel)
- b. A “man” child
- c. Destined to rule all nations with a rod of iron
- d. Gets caught up to heaven after birth

Possibilities:

It might be referring to the 144,000 “MALE” virgin Jews as listed in Rev 7, because they are said to witness on this earth for 3 1/2 years, then they disappear, then in Rev 14 they show up in heaven! *I would guess* that these 144,000 witnesses get “raptured” in the middle of the Tribulation, and the two witnesses take over from then on.

This “man child” could also be referring to the Lord Jesus Christ, but notice how as soon as he is born, he is caught up to heaven (12:5), and how that this passage is prophetic in context (not historical, or “looking back”). I believe it is referring to Jesus.

B. The War In Heaven (12:7-12a)

1. A future war - there is no end of wars until Rev 20!
2. Involves _____ (distinctly referred to in Daniel 10 & 12)
3. Involves the Devil himself and his angels
4. Satan is finally and forever cast out of heaven with his angels down to earth. Here, they make their base and prepare it as a bunker against the assault of Jesus Christ in Rev 19! In chapter 20, Satan is cast out of this realm into the Bottomless Pit. From there, “old smutty face” will be cast into the Lake of Fire (20:10)!
5. Satan’s purpose for the last 6000 years - _____ (12:10)
 - a. Jesus Christ is our Advocate, our _____ (I John 2:1)
 - b. The Devil is the _____, accuser, our adversary! See Job 1 and 2 for him in action.

PRINCIPLE: If Christ is not on your case defending you, then Satan will have you “put away forever!”

6. ***The only way to overcome the Devil*** (THIS IS EXTREMELY PRACTICAL):

- a. By the blood of the Lamb (Salvation AND constant cleansing)
- b. By the word of your testimony (know what God has done for your life and tell it) - Do you have one? Remember it, and quote it to the devil and temptations!
- c. By being willing to lose your life for Jesus’ sake! This is the hardest part of maturing as a Christian.

C.

The Wrath of The Dragon (12:12b-17)

1. Satan and his angels are locked out of heaven now, and soon will be locked out of this world (Rev 20:1-6). This makes Satan very mad! He turns against the object of God’s affection and work throughout history.
2. Notice that Satan has a very peculiar, vehement hatred for this woman (Israel), and her seed:
 - a. Egyptian Pharaoh making slaves out of Israel
 - b. 135 AD, Roman Emperor Hadrian had 580,000 Jews killed
 - c. 1020 AD, King Canute banished all Jews from England
 - d. 1096, the inquisition attempted to exterminate all the Jews in Europe, as well as Bible-Believing Christians!
 - e. 1215, Pope Innocent III made all Jews wear a YELLOW Badge to easily spot them!
 - f. 1272, King Edward I (Catholic) confiscated all Jewish property and exiled 16,500 Jews from England
 - g. 1306, 100,000 Jews lost all possessions and were exiled from France
 - h. 1350, the Jews were blamed for the Black Death
 - i. 1684, 800,000 Jews disappeared in Bavaria & Austria
 - j. 1938-1945, Hitler murdered 6,000,000 Jews
 - k. During the Tribulation, all of the world will blame Israel for their trouble once again and attempt to finally once and for all exterminate them at the battle of Armageddon.
3. Israel will flee to the wilderness (as in the Exodus) for 1260 days (42 months, or 3 1/2 years) as in 11:2,3 for the last half of the Tribulation.
 - a. She will be “nourished” with _____ (Micah 7:15) from heaven once again!
 - b. Israel will drink from a _____
 - c. Israel will flee by _____ to the wilderness, note the “wings” of a great eagle!
4. Satan will attempt to flood out the wilderness, but to no avail (Rev 12:15,16; Cf Dan 9:26,27)!
5. Satan then prepares for Armageddon (12:17).

III. Conclusion - Some Questions

1. What is the symbol of the Sun clothed woman identified as in 12:1,2? _____
2. What is the symbol of the Great Red Dragon identified as in 12:3,4? _____
3. List the seven kingdoms of history: 1) _____ 2) _____
 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

 6) _____ 7) _____
4. Who are the “stars” that fall from heaven? _____
5. Who do you think the symbol of the “man-child” represents, and why?

6. How is a person to overcome the power of the devil (list the three steps): _____

7. Where will Israel flee to when threatened by the antichrist? _____