



The Book of Revelation - Session 25: The Woman, Man Child & Dragon

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Revelation Chapter 12

Revelation chapters 10-14 are informational chapters.

These Chapters share information about events and personalities through the rest of this book.

They are not necessarily in chronological order.

The Two Witnesses Revelation Chapters 11 (Recap)

Verses 1-2 talked about how God told John to measure off the temple and how that meant that Jesus Christ was now taking ownership of the temple in the city of Jerusalem. **Rev 11:3 And I will give power to my two witnesses.**

Why two witnesses? According to the bible it takes two witnesses to establish a matter. **(Deuteronomy 19:15) Rev 11:3 And I will give power to my two witnesses,**

Why two witnesses? According to the bible it takes two witnesses to establish a matter. **(Deuteronomy 19:15)**

Who are the two witnesses? We do not know but some say that it will be Enoch and Elijah because the bible says that they were caught up without tasting death.

Others say that it will be Elijah and Moses because of the miracles they are able to perform.

The Two Witnesses will...prophecy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

Notice the whole time the anti-christ is ruling in Jerusalem the two witnesses are outside the gates preaching for 1260 days (three- and one-half years)

Rev 11:5 And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. Revelation 11:6 These (The two Witnesses) have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

John records that the ministry of these two witnesses is characterized by other miraculous powers.

Revelation 11:7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.



Notice only when they are finished can the enemy touch them.

As long as we are on God's agenda the enemy can't take us out. No matter what happens, we as born-again believers have the right to continue to run our race and to finish our course that God has set for us.

Revelation 11:8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

After Beast kills the two witnesses, John tells us “Their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.”

Revelation 11:9 Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies for three-and-a-half days, and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

Revelation 11:11 Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them, and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.

Miraculously, a voice from heaven shouts “Come Up Here”. These two witnesses are not only raised from the dead, but they are raptured up to heaven!

The same words that John heard in Revelation 4:1 “Come Up Here”.

God rescues them from their enemies and gives a solemn witness to the watching world. The world's great joy suddenly becomes great fear.

But during the first half of the tribulation there will finally be peace in the Middle East. Under the protection of Antichrist, the Jews will be able to rebuild the temple.

However, at the midpoint of the tribulation, the Antichrist will stop their sacrifices, place an image of himself in the holy place, take his seat in the temple, and demand to be worshipped as God. This is called “the abomination of desolation.”

Jesus warn His disciples about the abomination of desolation and the great tribulation that he will cause upon the earth.

Revelation 11:13 In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Notice throughout the whole Book of Revelation, whenever the Antichrist / satan thinks that he has gained a victory, God always out does him and does something greater.

Revelation 11:14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.



Revelation Chapter 12

The Woman, Man Child & Dragon

Revelation 12:1 Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars.

The fact that this “woman” is spoken of as “a great sign” emphasizes that John is not referring to a literal woman. *The woman is Israel.*

“Israel as wife of Jehovah.

Jeremiah 3:20-22 Surely, as a wife treacherously departs from her husband, So have you dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel," says the Lord.... 22 "Return, you backsliding children, And I will heal your backslidings." "Indeed we do come to You, For You are the Lord our God.

The church did not give birth to Jesus, but Jesus started the church.

The best option is to understand this woman as a symbolic reference to Israel. This is evident for the following reasons:

- (1) Israel is often identified as a woman in the Old Testament and is more specifically called God’s wife.
- (2) The image of the sun, moon, and twelve stars most definitely seems to be an allusion to Joseph’s dream in which the sun and moon are identified as Joseph’s parents, and the 12 stars represent the twelve sons of Jacob; ultimately the 12 tribes.

Genesis 37:9-11: Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." 10 So he told it to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?" 11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

The Child

Revelation 12:2 Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

We see from Genesis 37 the woman is the nation of Israel. Remember we said at the start of this series of teachings that the greatest resource to interpret the bible is the bible.

The child refers to Jesus Christ. In the bible, territories often refers to the beginning of where a person comes from. (**John 1:46**)

Revelation 12:5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

Scripture tells us from this description that this is Jesus.



There is a Messianic prophetic Psalms that speaks about the rule of Jesus Christ and Him using the rod of iron to govern here on the earth,

Psalms 2:7-9 "I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'"

Revelation 19:15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.

The Dragon

Revelation 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems (crowns) on his heads.

Again, remember this is a sign, what he says represents someone!

We know that the Devil through King Herod tried to kill Jesus. (**Matthew 2:12-16**)

We also know from this passage of scripture that the Devil knows only what God decides to reveal to him.

Satan knows the prophecies about God's plan of redemption. He also knows that redemption would come through the promised Messiah, who would come from the lineage of Israel.

But he did not know who it was.

Revelation 12:4 His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

His tail (drew)- meaning- "To drag, pull, draw as in catching fish," "as moving someone or something along by force or extreme influence."

Satan exhibited considerable influence over the stars (other angels) with his tail, "meaning to follow him". He was key in their rebellion. This is not his final casting out, but it refers to his original fall in sin and corruption of a portion of the heavenly host.

These stars are fallen angels who revolted with satan at his fall. **Isaiah 14:12-17**

This fall happens before the renewing of the earth. **Luke 10:18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**

Satan's initial rebellion is recorded in **Isaiah 14:12, 15 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.**

This occurred early in God's created order, prior to the renewing of the earth in **Genesis 1:2.**



There is scripture that points to satan being in control of this earth before **Genesis chapter 1:2**. A pretty good description of this is mentioned in **Ezekiel 28**.

Revelation 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Many believe that this is the time the Antichrist would turn on the nation of Israel.

But God will keep them safe by preparing a place for them to feed and to care for them for 3 1/2 years. We do not know how he will do this.

Revelation 12:7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

What John saw was the “dragon” that God later identifies as satan.

We’ll find out more about satan his heads, horns, and crowns in Revelation 13.

Revelation 12:8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer.

Don’t miss that this is not a battle between God and satan, but between Michael and satan. It is two created angels, and their forces battling each other.

Satan has perpetuated the lie that he is God’s opposite. He is not God’s opposite. He is not omniscient, omnipresent, or omnipotent. He is only a created being.

Satan’s angels are fallen angels not demons. Demons are disembodied spirits that roam the earth when the hybrid beings the Nephilim (giants) were destroyed by the flood.

Notice that satan was cast to the earth which indicates that his place now is on the earth.

The bible says that he has no place in heaven which means that his residence now is the earth, not that he does not have access to heaven.

In **Revelation 12:9**, the bible tells us who the dragon is, and his main weapon of destruction.

Revelation 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Notice, if you didn’t know, the dragon is satan. You get a lot of descriptive names that are used in the Bible for satan. Satan’s main weapons are deceiving and lying.

John 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.



Revelation 12:6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

We are told Israel is having to flee into the wilderness to get away from the wrath of satan. There, God protected her 1,260 days (three-and-a-half years) during the second half of the tribulation period.

These are the Jews who have not been converted during the first half of the tribulation.

Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in Heaven, Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

The loud voice is not identified. This voice will proclaim that Christ now has ownership of all the earth and now satan, loses his position as the ruler of this world.

John 12:30-31 30 Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

Revelation 12:10 will probably happen at the time of the seventh trumpet.

This verse further supported by the mention of satan as the **accuser of our brethren** satan will be kicked out of heaven, he will have no place to there to accuse believers.

Romans 8:33-34 33 Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Revelation 12-11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

This verse imparts three weapons that can be used to overcome satan.

The first weapon is “the blood of the Lamb.” The blood shed on the cross ensures that God will forgive us.

Therefore, no weapon that satan has formed against us has a right to prosper.

The second weapon we have is “the word of our testimony” (see **1:9; 6:9**).

This refers to both lips and lives. We must be salt and light to our world. When we share our testimony and we walk pleasing unto God, we move into satan’s territory and it’s intimidating to him! A righteous testimony is powerful and irrefutable.

The third weapon we have is “a refusal to love our old life”. These tribulation martyrs were willing to give up anything for Jesus: reputation, status, possessions and even their own lives if need be.

Luke 9:23-26 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. 25 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is



himself destroyed or lost? 26 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.

These tribulation believers were even willing to give up their lives for what they believed, even if it meant suffering the violent death of a martyr.

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them!

The Believers in Christ who have come up to Him in heaven have a right to rejoice, because they will escape what is left to come.

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time."

The devil can no longer accuse us in heaven. Therefore, he will launch his greatest attack of all time because he will no longer have access to heaven. He will focus all of his lying, deceitfulness, and limited power against those who are left on the earth because he will finally realize his time is short.

Satan persecutes God's people.

Revelation 12:13 Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

Once satan is cast out of heaven, a big part of his attention will be to persecuting the woman, (the nation of Israel) who brought forth the male child (Jesus).

His intense hatred of Israel will reach its climax during the great tribulation, as he tries to do everything in his power to destroy them. Satan knows that if he can destroy Israel, he can ruin God's program, keeping it from coming to ultimate fruition.

But the miraculous hand of God will be upon Israel, in the midst of satan's plot to destroy them, providing a way for them to escape.