

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 12

Before we start, let's take a quick look back at Chapter 11.

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever."

Revelation 11:15

**That's what we eagerly anticipate!
The kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.**

Christ is the winner.

**It's been stated from the beginning and it's important to
keep that in mind.**

The Book of Revelation is not chronological!
In Chapter 12, we will be viewing the
tribulation period all over again but from the
vantage point of evil,
not of God but of Satan.
We're going to see this satanic trinity: the
devil, the Antichrist, and the false prophet all
come together.

1 And a great (megas) sign (sēmeion) appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

**Nothing in the book of Revelation should be interpreted as symbolic unless identified as such!
THIS WOMAN IS NOT LITERAL.
This is a sign, a token, a symbol.**

sign
gr. **sēmeion**
Strong's g4592
an indication,
especially
ceremonially or
supernaturally:
miracle, **sign** token,
wonder.

Four Symbolic Women in Revelation

Jezebell Chapter 2	She represents paganism.
The Scarlet Woman (The prostitute) Chapter 17	Apostate religion in the end times. A final coming together of world religion.
The Wife of the Lamb Revelation 19:7	The Church! The bride that becomes the wife!
The Radiant Woman Revelation 12:1	???

**The woman is NOT the virgin Mary,
as the Roman Catholic Church believes.**

**She is NOT the Mother Church,
as some Protestant faiths believe.
Nowhere is scripture is the church called a “woman” or
is she called a “wife”.
If she is spoken of in female terms, she is referred to as
a bride.
She becomes a wife only in Revelation 19 at the
Marriage Supper of the Lamb.
The church never brought forth Christ,
Christ brought forth the Church!**

**Besides, if she was the church, she'd be in trouble,
because she's pregnant.**

So, who is she???

„Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, “Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the sun, the moon, and eleven stars (**Joseph is the 12th star**) were bowing down to me.” Genesis 37:9

This dream represents the nation of Israel.

Jacob knew that the eleven stars, plus one - Joseph, was to be the nation of Israel.

Israel is compared to a woman many times in both the Old and New Testament: Isaiah 54:1, 47:7-9, 50:1, Jeremiah 3:1-21, Hosea 2:1-23.

**Israel is introduced as a woman - a mother about to
give birth.**

What was the hope of every Jewish woman?

To give birth to a male child!

Specifically, the Messiah!

**He shall pay no attention to the gods of his fathers, or to
the one beloved by women. He shall not pay attention to
any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all.**

Daniel 11:37

²She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.

The woman is experiencing the pain and tribulation of nation of Israel, and is giving birth to Christ!

⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. Romans 9:4-5

Before Christ was born, Israel went through many periods of affliction, thus, the birth pains and agony of giving birth!

For to us **(the nation of Israel)** a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

**³And another sign appeared in
heaven:**

**Again, nothing in the book of
Revelation should be interpreted as
symbolic unless identified as such!
This is a sign, a token, a symbol.**

sign

gr. sēmeion

Strong's g4592

an indication,

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supernaturally:

miracle, sign token,

wonder.

The dragon is identified as Satan in verse 9. His color is red, the color of blood.

⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning

John 8:44a

He is great because of the power he has to rule the earth.

³with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.

Seven is a number of completeness, representing his complete dominion over the earth.

¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

So, the horns represent strength and the crowns represent kingdoms. We'll read more about the kingdoms in Chapters 13 and 17.

**Satan has his kingdom.
He is the ruler over this world.**

4 His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth.



Isaiah 14:12-15 recounts the fall of Satan from heaven.

**How you are cut down to the ground,
you who laid the nations low!**

**You said in your heart,
I will ascend to heaven;
above the stars of God**

**I will set my throne on high;
I will sit on the mount of assembly
in the far reaches of the north;**

**I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.'**

**But you are brought down to Sheol,
to the far reaches of the pit.**

We know that the stars refer to angels because of the Isaiah reference -

**“How you are fallen from heaven,
O Day Star, son of Dawn! Isaiah 14:12a**

4 And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.

**The dragon hates the woman and desires to kill the child!
Satan's plan has always been to destroy the nation of Israel to
thwart the plan of God!**

**I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between
your offspring and her offspring (Israel - Christ); he shall bruise
(crush) your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” Genesis 3:15**

But, in spite of Satan's best efforts

**⁵She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the
nations with a rod of iron,**

**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.**

**You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

Psalms 2:8-9

**Messiah will break and dash them in pieces when He comes again
to the earth. - Ryrie Study Bible Notes**

⁵ but her child was caught up
(harpazō) to God and to his throne
(Christ's ascension!),
¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are
left, will be caught up (harpazō)
together with them in the clouds to
meet the Lord in the air, and so we
will always be with the Lord.
1 Thessalonians 4:17

caught up
gr. **harpazō**
Strong's g0726
To seize; catch
(away up), pluck,
pull, take by force.

and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days (3 1/2 years).

There is a tremendous time lapse between Verse 5 (birth and ascension of Christ) and Verse 6, which is not uncommon in prophecy.

**Israel is enjoying comparative peace in the first 3 1/2 years of the tribulation,
so this reference must be to the preservation of a portion of the nation Israel through the great tribulation and into the millennium.**

So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Matthew 24:15-22

Could the reference to those days being cut short refer to 3 1/2 years?

⁶ in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days (3 1/2 years).
This verse indicates that during the intense part of the great tribulation, this remnant of Israel will be protected by God.

**7 Now war
arose in
heaven,
Michael and his
angels fighting
against the
dragon.**



**And the
dragon
and his
angels
fought
back,**

“At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people (Michael is Israel’s advocate and defender!). And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. Daniel 12:1a

Though the conflict at the end of the age is primarily on earth, there will also be war in heaven.

The purpose of the war is to expel the dragon and his angels.

John F. Walvoord writes that this event marks the beginning of the great tribulation.

This is not a mänō ä mänō fight between God and Satan.

**Satan couldn't even last a round with God.
This battle is between a created Lucifer and a
created Michael!**

Satan likes to make you think he is God's equal.

Michael and Satan have tangled before.

But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you." Jude 1:9

And, they tangled in Daniel -
The prince of the kingdom of Persia
withstood me twenty-one days, but
Michael, one of the chief princes, came to
help me, for I was left there with the
kings of Persia, Daniel 10:13

⌘ but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

We know that Satan has had access to heaven.

Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. Job 1:6

Satan's activities will now be restricted totally to the earth! This is a major step in his ultimate defeat, and Satan is really, really angry about it and full of wrath!

⁹And the great dragon
was thrown down, that
ancient serpent, who is
called the **devil**
(diabolos) and Satan,
The false accuser of the
brothers.

Devil

gr. **diabolos**

Strong's g1228

Satan: false

accuser, devil,
slanderer, prone to
slander,
slandorous,
accusing falsely.

**And he (Jesus) said to them, “I saw Satan
fall like lightning from heaven.**

Luke 10:18

**The ancient serpent from the garden of
Eden, the devil and Satan, the deceiver of
the whole world starting with Eve.**

**10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying,
“Now the salvation and the power and the
kingdom of our God and the authority of his
Christ have come, for the accuser of our
brothers has been thrown down, who accuses
them day and night before our God.
Satan has been thrown down and there is
great rejoicing in heaven!
The loud voice could be the martyred saints in
heaven under the altar because they refer to **the
accuser of our brothers.****

¹¹ And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Three powerful spiritual weapons are employed to secure the victory of the saints.

- 1. The blood of the Lamb renders the believer pure and makes possible his spiritual victory**
- 2. The word of the believer's testimony opposes the deceiving work of Satan in that the Gospel is the Power of God unto salvation**
- 3. The believers are so totally committed that they die as martyrs**

¹²Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

Heaven rejoices, but the earth trembles because Satan has no more opportunity in heaven to accuse the brotherhood.

He is livid and will now focus his entire attention and wrath on the earth.

Many commentators feel that this marks the beginning of the Great Tribulation and, if so, Satan has 3 1/2 years left in his reign on earth and scripture says he knows it.

13 And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

We know that the woman represents the nation of Israel and now Satan, cast from heaven in defeat, will turn all of his focus and all of his energy on the nation of Israel throughout the Great Tribulation.

The last and worst wave of anti-semitism is about to roll across the earth.

It will be worse than anything that has gone before it in history!

The time of Jacob's trouble!

¹⁴ But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness,

Metaphorically, the wings of eagles has previously represented the grace of God for the people of Israel.

‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Exodus 19:4

God will get them out on eagle’s wings because of His grace!

**¹⁴ to the place where she is to be nourished for a time,
and times, and half a time.**

We know that the woman represents the nation of Israel and now Satan, cast from heaven in defeat, will turn all of his focus and all of his energy on the nation of Israel throughout the Great Tribulation.

In the book of Daniel, we find that the antichrist will wage a fierce battle but that Edom, Moab and the main part of the Ammorites will be delivered from the hands of the antichrist.....

He shall come into the glorious land. And tens of thousands shall fall, but these shall be delivered out of his hand: Edom and Moab and the main part of the Ammonites. Daniel 11:41

This is present-day Jordan.

Down through the ages, there has been a notion that, because the “safe zone” for the woman described in Revelation and the “spared zone” in Daniel is actually in modern-day Jordan, this “place” might refer to the City of Petra.

¹⁵The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood.

The woman (Israel) will escape to a literal place.

Therefore, we might assume that the water is literal as well!

**¹⁶ But the earth came to the help of the woman, and
the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river
that the dragon had poured from his mouth.**

**The Lord is a man of war;
the Lord is his name.**

**“Pharaoh’s chariots and his host he cast into the sea,
and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.**

**The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.**

Exodus 15:3-5 (Song of Moses and the People)

Oops, well Satan that didn’t work before either!

**However, the river could also be a great army that
Satan sends after the nation of Israel!**



**therefore, behold, the Lord is bringing up against
them the waters of the River, mighty and many,
the king of Assyria and all his glory. And it will
rise over all its channels and go over all its banks,
and it will sweep on into Judah, it will overflow
and pass on, reaching even to the neck, and its
outspread wings will fill the breadth of your land,
O Immanuel.” Isaiah 8:7-8**

**(In 701BC, Sennacherib invaded Judah and only
Jerusalem escaped.)**

**In Ezekiel, the king of the north is seen
marching on Israel.**

**How will the king be stopped because no
nation is there to stop him?**

**God is there and will destroy him with
natural forces.**

**With pestilence and bloodshed I will enter
into judgment with him, and I will rain upon
him and his hordes and the many peoples
who are with him torrential rains and
hailstones, fire and sulfur. Ezekiel 38:22**

¹⁷ Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus (obviously the 144,000 sealed witnesses are in Satan's sights). Some of the translations include And he stood on the sand of the sea as part of Revelation 12:17. It should begin Chapter 13.