

## Revelation – The Return The War (Revelation 12)

### The woman and the dragon

The woman in John's vision is a good sign.

- Revelation 12:1-2
- The woman represents all followers of God.

Dragons are symbols of evil, chaos and death.

- Revelation 12:3-4
- The dragon is dangerous and lustful for power.
- The dragon is our enemy, Satan.
- The stars thrown from heaven are fallen angels, demons.
- The dragon is waiting to eat the newborn child.
  - Revelation 12:4

### The child

The baby was Jesus, the Messiah.

- Revelation 12:5
- God prophesied the coming of the baby in the Garden of Eden.
  - Genesis 3:15
- Satan tried to prevent the coming of the Messiah for centuries.
- Christmas is the miracle birth of the promised offspring, escaping the jaws of Satan.
- God protected and provided for Jesus and He will do the same for His followers.

### The war

Satan will be cast out from heaven forever.

- Revelation 12:7-9
- The battle is between Satan and his demons and the archangel Michael and the armies of heaven.
- Satan is in no way God's equal.
- Satan cannot defeat God.

### Satan

Satan currently has access to God only when God allows it.

- Job 1:6-7
- Satan's power is limited and determined by God.

Satan is:

- the ancient serpent who tempted Eve.
- the "adversary" or "accuser".
  - Revelation 12:10
- the "slanderer".
- the condemner.
  - Romans 8:1
- the thief who steals, kills, and destroys.
  - John 10:10 I came that you might...

Ex.in your life: \_\_\_\_\_

### Victory and fury

We have victory over Satan.

- Revelation 12:11
- We defeat Satan through the power of Jesus' blood.
  - 1 Peter 1:18-19
- We defeat Satan by the word of our testimony.
  - Ezekiel 3:1-3
- We defeat Satan when we put Jesus before our own lives.
  - Mark 8:34-35
- Satan's accusations can include a request to sift our faith.
  - Luke 22:31-32 that he might sift all of you like grain , but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail and .. that you strengthen and establish your brethren.
- We're defeated when we believe Satan's accusations.
- Ex. \_\_\_\_\_

Faced with defeat, Satan will pour out his wrath on the world.

- Revelation 12:12
- Revelation 12:13-14
- God will protect and provide for His people.
  - Revelation 12:15-16
  - Revelation 12:17
- Satan's most effective tool is deception.

### Action Steps

- Ask God to reveal any of Satan's lies in your life.  
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- Share your testimony in word and action this week.  
with who? \_\_\_\_\_

- Invite someone to join us next week.

### Revelation 12:11

“They overcame him by **the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony**; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.”

**REV.12 AMPC** And a great sign (wonder)—[warning of future events of ominous significance] appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and with a crownlike garland (tiara) of twelve stars on her head.<sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and she cried out in her birth pangs, in the anguish of her delivery.<sup>3</sup> Then another ominous sign (wonder) was seen in heaven: Behold, a huge, fiery-red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven kingly crowns (diadems) upon his heads.<sup>4</sup> His tail swept [across the sky] *and* dragged down a third of the stars and flung them to the earth. And the dragon stationed himself in front of the woman who was about to be delivered, so that he might devour her child as soon as she brought it forth.<sup>5</sup> And she brought forth a male Child, One Who is destined to shepherd (rule) all the nations with an iron staff (scepter), and her Child was caught up to God and to His throne.<sup>6</sup> And the woman [herself] fled into the desert (wilderness), where she has a retreat prepared [for her] by God, in which she is to be fed *and* kept safe for 1,260 days (42 months; three and one-half years).<sup>7</sup> Then war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels went forth to battle with the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought.<sup>8</sup> But they were defeated, and there was no room found for them in heaven any longer.<sup>9</sup> And the huge dragon was cast down *and* out—that age-old serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, he who is the seducer (deceiver) of all humanity the world over; he was forced out *and* down to the earth, and his angels were flung out along with him.<sup>10</sup> Then I heard a strong (loud) voice in heaven, saying, Now it has come—the salvation and the power and the kingdom (the dominion, the reign) of our God, and the power (the sovereignty, the authority) of His Christ

(the Messiah); for the accuser of our brethren, he who keeps bringing before our God charges against them day and night, has been cast out!<sup>11</sup> And they have overcome (conquered) him by means of the blood of the Lamb and by the utterance of their testimony, for they did not love *and* cling to life even when faced with death [holding their lives cheap till they had to die for their witnessing].<sup>12</sup> Therefore be glad (exult), O heavens and you that dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in fierce anger (fury), because he knows that he has [only] a short time [left]!<sup>13</sup> And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he went in pursuit of the woman who had given birth to the male Child.<sup>14</sup> But the woman was supplied with the two wings of a giant eagle, so that she might fly from the presence of the serpent into the desert (wilderness), to the retreat where she is to be kept safe *and* fed for a time, and times, and half a time (three and one-half years, or 1,260 days).<sup>15</sup> Then out of his mouth the serpent spouted forth water like a flood after the woman, that she might be carried off with the torrent.<sup>16</sup> But the earth came to the rescue of the woman, and the ground opened its mouth and swallowed up the stream of water which the dragon had spouted from his mouth.<sup>17</sup> So then the dragon was furious (enraged) at the woman, and he went away to wage war on the remainder of her descendants—[on those] who obey God’s commandments and who have the testimony of Jesus *Christ* [and adhere to it and <sup>la</sup>bear witness to Him.

1 Peter 1:18-19<sup>18</sup> You must know (recognize) that you were redeemed (ransomed) from the useless (fruitless) way of living inherited by tradition from [your] forefathers, not with corruptible things [such as] silver and gold,<sup>19</sup> But [you were purchased] with the precious blood of Christ (the Messiah), like that of a [sacrificial] lamb without blemish or spot.

Mark 8:34-35 NIV <sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life<sup>la</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.