

Revelation

12:1-17

***One
Woman
One
Identification***



***Sunday
07-14-2024***

A Heavenly Sign
Revelation 12:1-2

- 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.
- 2** Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.



A Heavenly Sign — Revelation 12:3-4

- 3** And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.
- 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.



A Heavenly Sign *Revelation 12:5-6*

- 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.
- 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.

Three Words for "Miracle"

➤ 1

Teras = Visible effect
of Miracle

Matthew 24:24

²⁴ For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

➤ 2

Dunamis = Power or
Authority

Galatians 3:5

⁵ Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does He do it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Three Words for "Miracle"

➤ 3

sémeion = The significance or
meaning of the Miracle

John 2:11

11 This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

Three Characters For Identification

A
radiant woman

A great
red dragon

A new-
born baby boy



Great Red Dragon

- Seven heads, ten horns like Daniel's beast
- Tail swept a third of the stars out of heaven
- Color is red for fire and upheaval
- Anticipates birth of child, intends destruction

The Child

Male

**To rule all
nations**

**Child caught
up to God**

The Woman

Radiant

**Clothed with
Sun,
Moon under feet**

**Pregnant and
with
contractions**

**Fled from Satan
where God cares
for her for 1260
days**

Hippolytus, Tyconnius, Victorinus of Petovium said:

- This view, however, is popular among both Catholics and Protestants. On the Catholic side of the ledger, Hippolytus, Victorinus of Petovium, and Tyconnius invoke this view. Typical is Victorinus, who notes that “the woman clothed with the sun, and having the moon under her feet, and wearing a crown of twelve stars upon her head, and travailing in her pains, is the ancient Church of fathers, and prophets, and saints, and apostles, which had the groans and torments of its longing until it saw that Christ, the fruit of its people according to the flesh long promised to it, had taken flesh out of the selfsame people. Moreover, being clothed with the sun intimates the hope of resurrection and the glory of the promise. And the moon intimates the fall of the bodies of the saints under the obligation of death, which never can fail. For even as life is diminished, so also it is increased.

The Woman — Who is she?

**Obviously, Mary
the mother of
our Lord**

The Church

Israel

*Any Jew reading text thought
of Joseph's dream*

Genesis 37:9

⁹Then 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."

Genesis 12:3

"I will bless those who
bless you,
And I will curse him who
curses you;
And in you all the families
of the earth shall
be blessed."

C. C. Rowland said:

- “Talk about Satan is avoided by some liberally minded people. It seems to reflect the beliefs of simple-minded believers or the fantasies of infancy, which mature adults should have grown out of. The demonic world, particularly when it dwells on destruction, is one we may find distasteful—even pathological. We may find ourselves reacting negatively to images of hostility and polarization or, rightly, reluctant to ‘demonize’ others. The symbolism of evil in the Bible is a problem, and yet it is a potent resource to help us to comprehend the forces that upset and subvert our managed lives. Satan symbolizes that which stands between humans and the divine presence, and the personification of him as a dragon or a serpent is a sign of the reality of evil. As Revelation indicates, the manifestation of Satan’s power is complex. It is institutional and social as well as personal. Thus the beast is a concrete embodiment of evil power. Evil does not take the form of a single king but an imperial institution or structure; it is a way of operating, and its agents of propaganda take many shapes.”

M. C. Reddish said:

- “Many modern readers may feel somewhat uneasy with this chapter. In some circles, any talk of the reality of evil is considered naïve and unsophisticated. As Walter Wink has observed, ‘Our culture resolutely refuses to believe in the real existence of evil, preferring to regard it as a kind of systems breakdown that can be fixed with enough tinkering.’ This aversion to speaking about evil is particularly true if one speaks of evil in terms of a Satan figure. But this chapter, indeed all of Revelation, forces us to face squarely the problem of evil in our world. Whether one chooses to retain the traditional imagery of Satan and demons to speak of the presence of evil in the world, or to demythologize the language of evil and recast our understanding in modern terminology, one cannot remain true to the biblical witness if he does not recognize that evil is a reality, indeed a force, threatening to overwhelm us. What is important is not the imagery depicting evil, but rather the resolve to resist evil and align ourselves with God.”

*Satan's
purpose is to
"devour"
the Lord*

Greek  καταφάγη

kataphagē

Instant Video Replay

Revelation 12:7-9

⁷ And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,
⁸ but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for [them in heaven any longer.
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.

The King of Babylon

Isaiah 14:12-15

- 12** “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!
- 13** For you have said in your heart:
‘I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
- 14** I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High.’
- 15** Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,
To the lowest depths of the Pit.

The King of Tyre
Ezekiel 28:11-12

11 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

12 “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD:

“*You were* the seal of perfection,
Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

The King of Tyre
Ezekiel 28:13-14

- 13** You were in Eden, the garden of God;
Every precious stone *was* your covering:
The sardius, topaz, and diamond,
Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald
with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes
Was prepared for you on the day you were created.
- 14** “You *were* the anointed cherub who covers; I established
you; You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

The King of Tyre
Ezekiel 28:15-17

- 15** You *were* perfect in your ways from the day you were created,
Till iniquity was found in you.
- 16** “By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence
within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing
Out of the mountain of God;
And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery
stones.
- 17** “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;
You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;
I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at
you.

The King of Tyre
Ezekiel 28:18-19

- 18** “You defiled your sanctuaries
By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of
your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst;
It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the
earth In the sight of all who saw you.
- 19** All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at
you; You have become a horror,
And *shall be* no more forever.” ’ ”

Contemporary
Theology
Rejects Satanic
Background



Church Fathers Almost
Universally Affirm It

- Origen
- Jerome
- Augustine
- Cyril of Jerusalem
- Tertullian

Contemporary Charles Feinberg said:

“The author cannot follow those views which inject without support a foreign and false mythology, a legendary atmosphere or a hypothetical ideal personality. It cannot be conceded that Ezekiel was following a free imagination which admittedly was not ideal with him. Instead, he appeared to have the situation of his day in mind with his attention riveted upon the ruler of Tyre, the embodiment of the people’s pride and godlessness. But as he viewed the thoughts and ways of that monarch, he clearly discerned behind him the motivating force and personality who was impelling him in his opposition to God.

Contemporary Charles Feinberg continued:

In short, he saw the work and activity of Satan, whom the king of Tyre was emulating in so many ways. Recall the incident in Matthew 16:21–23 where Peter was rebuked by our Lord Jesus. No sterner words were spoken to anyone in Christ's earthly ministry. But He did not mean that Peter had somehow become Satan himself; He was indicating that the motivation behind Peter's opposition to His going to Calvary was none other than the prince of the demons. This appears to be a similar situation. Some liberal expositors admit that it would appear that Ezekiel had in mind some spirit or genius of Tyre comparable to the angelic powers and princes in the book of Daniel who are entrusted with the affairs of nations."

*Woman hidden
and protected
by God for
1260 days*



The Triumph of the Crucified

*Revelation
12:10-12*

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



*Satan's most
devastating role:*

Accusation

*He is overcome by
the blood of the
Lamb and the word
of their testimony*

Greek



νικάω

nikaō

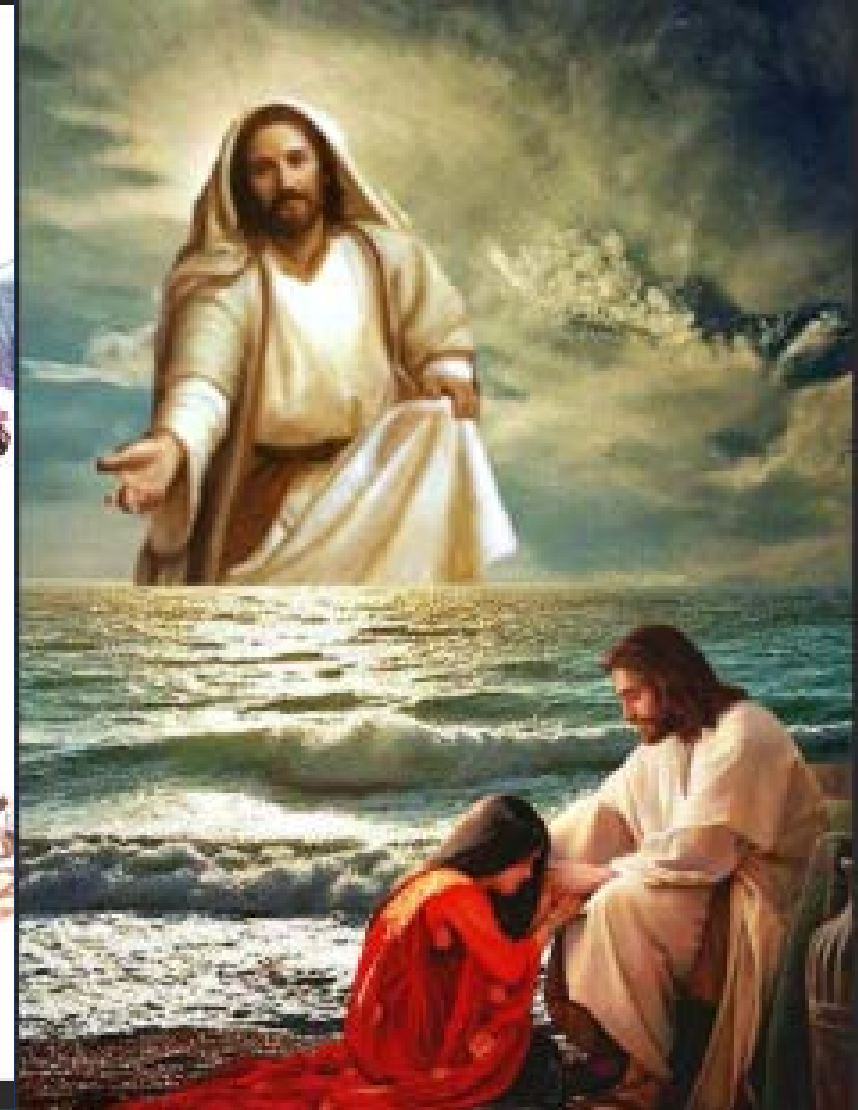


***Satan knows
time is limited***

**Satan
Thwarted**

**Revelation
12:13-17**

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*. **14** But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. **15** So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. **16** But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. **17** And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.



***Woman protected for time,
times, and half a time***

A detailed illustration of a dragon with green and brown scales, breathing a large stream of fire. The dragon is positioned in the center-left of the frame, with its wings spread. The background is a cloudy sky. The text "Dragon is Enraged" is written in yellow at the top right. A yellow oval with a brown border is located in the bottom right, containing the text "Turns on her offspring— Those with the testimony of Jesus".

Dragon is Enraged

***Turns
on her offspring—
Those with the
testimony of Jesus***