

# REVELATION SERIES - LESSON 17

## REVELATION 12

Ch 12 has us between the trumpets and the bowls. Bowls are introduced in Ch 15 and will be poured out on over in Ch 16.

Ch 12 - Explanation of God' redemptive plan through a "woman" and a "child".

Ch 13 - Opposition to that plan by the "Dragon".

Ch 14 - Proclamation of that plan by 3 Angels.

It's encouraging to see how God does not give up on getting out His plan and invitation.

We've been entrusted with this glorious message to tell to the world. But here he allows angels to be a part of this endeavor.

12:1-6

I believe this woman is Israel and how she is relating to this child.

This vision of sun, moon and stars is extremely similar to the dream Joseph had in Genesis 37.

God gave Joseph this dream about his father Jacob pictured as sun, Rebekah was moon and the 12 stars were the tribes of Israel and sons of Jacob.

When you put all that together and you get here, woman is Israel.

Vs 3 - So now we're introduced to a "dragon".

\* “Fiery Red”

\* “7 Heads”

\* “10 Horns”

\* “7 Diadems”

Some have read this and see this as the revived “Roman Empire”.

I think it means that the “Dragon” comes with great authority, with the heads and crowns.

He will influence world government and the political system.

It’s pretty clear that the Dragon is defined for us down in vs 9.

Vs 9 - the Dragon is Satan.

Vs 7 -12

### 5 titles of Satan

1 - "Serpent of Old" - goes all the way back to Gen 3.

In Hebrew, word for serpent is "Nahas".

"Nahas" translates "Copper" or "Bronze".

2 - The Devil (vs 9) "Diabolos" = Accuser

3 - Satan (vs 9) = "Adversary" or "Enemy"

4 - "One who deceives the whole world".

II Cor. 4:4 - "god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers so that they cannot see the gospel".

5 - The Accuser of the brethren (vs 10)

"He accuses us before God day and night".

"He loves to accuse us before God but he seems to do his best work when he accuses you to you".

Vs 12 says he "knows his time is short"!

He wants to take as many people with him and he hates you cause you look like and are related to Jesus.

Now John as he writes this is actually going back in time (not all is chronological).

He goes back to when Satan was expelled from heaven.

Satan was created by God as a Guardian Cherub (Ez 28).

It is believed that he was the worship leader in heaven.

John refers to this in vs 7 of Ch 12.

John says “war breaks out in heaven”.

Vs 7 “Michael” (mentioned 5 times in Bible) fought with him and angels.

Vs 8

After they lost, God kicks them out of Heaven. Then these angels (fallen) or demons now are given the earth as their play ground.

It's why Paul would write in Eph 6 that "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers . . . in the heavenly realms."

Jesus said in Luke 10:18 "He saw Satan fall like lightning from Heaven".

Jesus being God was there when he was kicked out.

Who is the child?

Male Child = Vs 5

Vs 5 - "Rod of Iron" = Iron Scepter. "Caught up to God"

Iron Scepter = something a Ruler would possess.

Ps 2:8-9 - Messianic passage.

Rev 19:15 - This is about Jesus returning to earth after tribulation is over.

"Rod of Iron" is for a King and it's **JESUS**.

It's a picture of Christ rising from the dead and ascending back to heaven where He presently is.

Phil 2:4-9

Psalm 24:7-10

Put all this together and John is seeing the redemptive plan of God.

Through Jesus all people can be saved and blessed. As many as will put their trust in Christ.

Satan (dragon) has always stood opposed to that redemptive plan.

When John talks about the Dragon was sitting in a place ready to devour the male child, he is speaking about how Satan is trying to destroy the entire messianic line and destroy the entire redemptive plan.

Satan has been involved in antisemitism since the very beginning of time.

1 - Satan was behind Pharoah.

2 - Satan was behind Haman in book of Esther.

3 - Satan was behind Herod the great of Rome.

4 - Hitler = 7 million Jews killed.

Satan wants to devour the child.

As much as Satan has tried, he has never prevailed and never will prevail.

God has been continually preserving and bringing Israel back.

In 1948 a nation was established out of nothing.

Vs 13

Vs 14 - reference to 3 ½ years.

The Antichrist will reveal himself for who he is and the Jews will flee. Some believe they will flee to the Rock City of Petra.

“Wings like an eagle to fly to her place”.

Vs 15

Vs 16

Vs 17

Ch 12 - ends with seeing a rebellion in heaven and Satan cast to earth and Satan's plan has tried to stop God's plan.

Ch 13 - we will see 2 principle players, I'm going to call the diabolical duo.

Antichrist and the False Prophet.

Ch 13:1-10

“Beast coming up out of the sea”.

We commonly call this individual “Antichrist”. In the book of Revelation, he is referred to as the Beast 28 times.

Other titles in Bible:

“Man of lawlessness”

“Son of Perdition” - 2 Thess 2:3

“Foolish Shepherd” - Zach 11:15-17

“King that exalts self” - Daniel 11:36-45