

Jesus Reveals the Future, Part 12

Signs & War in the Heavens – The 2nd Half Starts with a Vengeance

Revelation 12:1-17 | 07/03/2016

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Revelation 12:1-17

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.

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. 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.

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 (*i.e. the dragon and his angels*) 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** (*see Genesis 3*), called the Devil and Satan, who **DECEIVES THE WHOLE WORLD**; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

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 (Messiah) 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.”

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.

1. **SIGNS** → A Sign Points to Something ... it is symbolic of something ... it is communication
The Signs in the Heavens ... what do we call them today? A Woman, 12 STARS ... a Serpent or Dragon? Those are actual ancient “SIGNS” in the Zodiac/Mazzaroth ... somehow they’ve come to life and John is seeing all this take place (as if they’ve come to life with animation ...)

2. **Who does the Woman Represent? She is Israel. This is the only consistent way of viewing “her” in this whole chapter, overall. The Roman Catholic church says that she is Mary.
→ Israel, as a nation, gave birth to their Messiah, He is the Holy One of Israel.**

3. **Who is this Child she gives birth to? Is it Jesus Christ? The 144,000? The Two Witnesses?
→ It must be Jesus Christ, the Messiah of Israel (see Psalm 2 for more on this)**

4. **The Serpent, in Genesis 3 is Satan or the Devil. He is also depicted as a Dragon with 7 heads and 10 horns in Rev. 12. Symbolic Language about a real, created, angelic being. Satan has angels (a host, an army) ... but only 1/3 of the angels rebelled against God and follow Satan. 2/3 did not Fall. God has put the Host of the Armies of Heaven, in this case, under the Leadership of Michael (remember Daniel 10 ... in which Gabriel talks about the Prince of Persia and the Prince of Greece (angelic beings)?)**

5. **No matter what Satan tries to do, he is thwarted at every turn. Remember this. Satan may look like he is winning, but he is not, overall. Also Notice that he deceives the whole world ... ref. 1 John 5:19 → “... and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.”**

6. **Chapter 12 shows us what was going on, behind the scenes that precipitated the Rise of the AntiChrist (which we saw in Revelation 11) in which that AntiChrist was able to defeat the Two Witnesses (Satan was cast down to earth and he has great wrath/vengeance/anger against Israel and “her offspring” ...) What is going on the Spiritual Realm, behind the scenes, plays out in the Physical Realm in which we live (see Ephesians 6:10-20; Daniel 10 & 11)**

7. **This is what led to the Mid-Point of the Great Tribulation we read about in Rev. 11. Now there is another 3.5 years (Time, Times, and Half a Time – or – 1260 days) remaining ... and Israel, from this point forward is protected? Why?
According to Zechariah 12, Romans 11, and Revelation 11 – Israel Repents and has a “Come to Jesus” moment, nationally – when they see the AntiChrist’s true colors when he defeats the Two Witnesses, the Two Witnesses’ Resurrection and Ascension, and the Earthquake in Jerusalem. Israel, from that Point Forward has cried out to God and God will Protect them, nationally, from the AntiChrist’s schemes for the next 3.5 years. Many think that will be in Petra ... it is debatable, but God will do this.**

Who are the “rest of her (Israel’s) offspring” that Satan will go after?

Answer: The Fruit of the 144,000 – of all nations, tongues, tribes, and peoples.

They will be persecuted and killed for their refusal to submit to the AntiChrist

see Revelation 13, and Revelation 14:1-5, 12-13 (notice the connection with the 144,000 and those that will be killed in Rev. 14:12-13)

8. **What overcomes, defeats and has victory over Satan?
(see Rev. 12:11; 1 John 5:4-5)**