

The Woman, The Dragon, The “Man Child”

Revelation 12

I. Three Symbols

- A. The Woman — represents Israel (12:1)
 - The twelve stars are representative of the twelve patriarchs of Israel (Gen. 37:9-10).
 - Through much travail, Israel gives birth to a “man child” (12:2).

- B. The Dragon – represents Satan (12:3-4 9)
 - The 7 heads, 10 horns and 7 crowns represent Satan’s rule over the nations on the earth (see Rev. 13:1, 7).
 - Satan eagerly seeks to destroy the “man child” (12:5).

- C. The “Man Child” – may represent the 144,000 Jewish evangelists (12:2, 5)
 - The “man child” will rule the nations with a rod of iron (12:5) — this description is used not just for Christ (Psalm 2:9), but also for “overcomers” (Rev. 2:27).
 - The “man child” is caught up to God, and to His throne (12:5); the 144,000 are redeemed from among men and seen before God’s throne (Rev. 14:3-5).

NOTES

II. Satan Cast out of Heaven

- A. Michael & his angels fight against the dragon and his angels (12:7)
- B. Satan is cast out of heaven, drawing 1/3 of the angels with him (12:4, 8-9).
- C. Heaven celebrates this victory (12:10-12).

III. Satan Unleashed on Earth

- A. Satan unleashes his fury on the earth, signaling the beginning of the Great Tribulation. His rage is fueled with the knowledge that his time is short (12:12).
- B. Satan focuses his wrath on the Jewish nation (12:13).

IV. The Miraculous Escape of the Jews

- A. The Jews flee for their lives, possibly to Petra (12:5, 14; see also Matt. 24:15-21)
- B. God supernaturally delivers many of the Jews from the pursuit of the AntiChrist’s armies (12:15-16)

V. Satan’s Persecution of the Remnant

- A. AntiChrist unleashes his wrath on the believing remnant, such that many are martyred (12:17)
- B. Tribulation martyrs are avenged and richly rewarded (Rev. 6:9-11; 7:9-17)