

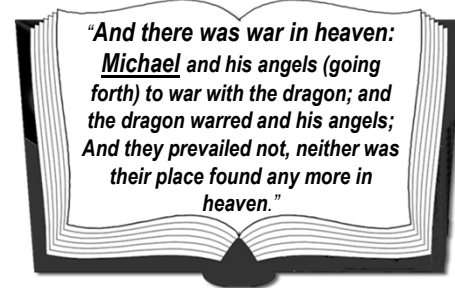
A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

January 24, 2021

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Revelation 12

Revelation 12:7-8



Revelation 12



Revelation 12

War in Heaven

- The apocalyptic scene shifts from **earth to heaven**.
- The **opponents**:
 - **Michael and his angels** (Daniel 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9)
- versus
 - **Dragon and his angels**
 - Not his first defeat (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6; Luke 8:31)
 - Doesn't stop him from accusing (Job 1)

Revelation 12

War in Heaven

- The apocalyptic scene shifts from **earth to heaven**.
- The **opponent**: (*devil*)
 - **Power begins to diminish with the ministry of Christ.** (Luke 10:18; John 14:30)
 - It is further limited by the coming of the Holy Spirit. (John 16:8-11)
 - **Christ removed Satan's power over death.** (Hebrews 2:14; John 12:31; 1 John 3:8)
 - We now have an advocate with the Father. (1 John 2:1-2; James 4:7-8)

Revelation 12

War in Heaven

- **Symbolic representation** of Satan's **angry reaction** to the Messiah's escape from his wicked plot to destroy Him!
- Michael and his fellow angels engage them in battle!
- Michael and his angels will **prevail** because they have God's **power and authority** behind them!

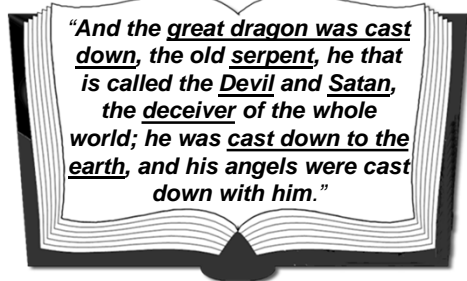
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War in Heaven

- **Spiritual warfare** behind the scenes.
- Satan's angels were "**not strong enough.**"
- No longer is a place "**found for them in heaven**"
 - **Resounding defeat** in the heavenly realm by Michael and his angels
 - Complete defeat for Satan, and **complete victory** for Christ
 - Satan no longer has **any** ground to accuse God's people; it's **all** been taken away! (**Hebrews 2:14-15**)

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:9



"And the great dragon was cast down, the old serpent, he that is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world; he was cast down to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him."

Revelation 12

The Dragon's Identity Confirmed

- Story of the Garden of Eden "**that old serpent**" (**Genesis 3**)
- Called the "**devil**," "**Satan**"
 - *Slanderer*
 - *Adversary*
 - *Constantly opposes mankind*
 - *Great force against God*
 - *Against His creation*
 - *Against His Son*
 - *Deception of the entire world* (**John 8:44**)

Revelation 12

The Dragon's Identity Confirmed

- Verse 9 Now the scene shifts back to earth – "**cast out into the earth**"
- "**Angels cast out with him**"
- The devil's adversarial role continues.
- Yet, because of **Christ's death** he cannot win!
- John's vision depicts the **climax** of war between the forces of righteousness and of evil.
- This is **NOT** a discussion of Satan's origin!

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:10

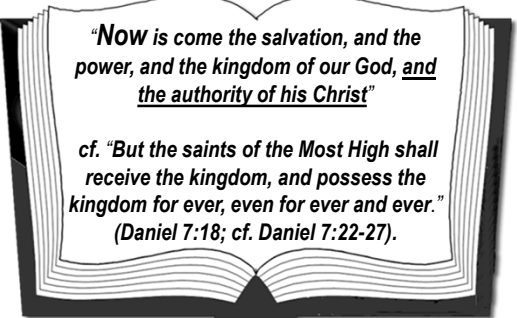


"And I heard a great voice in heaven, saying, Now is come the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accuseth them before our God day and night."

Matthew 28:18; Daniel 2:44; 7:25;
Hebrews 2:14ff;
Luke 11:21-22; Isaiah 53:12

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:10



"Now is come the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ"

cf. "But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever." (Daniel 7:18; cf. Daniel 7:22-27).

Revelation 12

The Response

- **12:10 – Praise** given to God for:
 - The coming of salvation (*manifested*)
 - Power (*vindicated*)
 - As promised in Daniel 2, in spite of four mighty kingdoms of the earth; God's Kingdom, God's purpose would be achieved.
 - *All nations would flow into it.* Isaiah 2:2; Micah 4
 - *These would be His subjects.* cf. Psalms 2; 110; Revelation 12:5
 - Christ's authority (*revealed*)
 - Accomplished by His **death, burial, and resurrection**
 - Ephesians 1:7
 - Colossians 1:13-14; 2:15
 - Matthew 28:18; 1 Peter 3:22

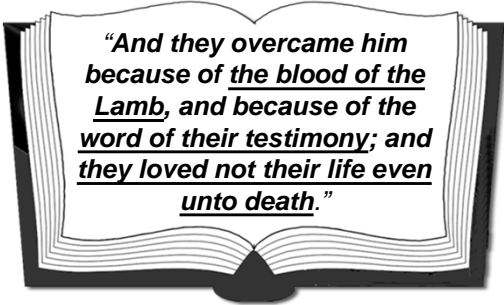
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The Response

- **12:10 – God receives praise** because:
 - **The accuser of the brethren** has been cast down.
 - The devil **lost the battle** in his great warfare against God.
 - He was **unable** to destroy the man child born on earth.
 - Finally, at **Christ's death**, Satan lost the spiritual battle in heaven!
 - He was unable to prevent the **resurrection**. (Romans 1:4)
 - Powerless in any **confrontation** with God. (Romans 8:33-39)

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:11



“And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony; and they loved not their life even unto death.”

Revelation 12

Formula for Victory

- **WHO** conquered and gained the victory and **HOW** did they do it?
- The **brethren**, who suffered at the hands of Satan **OVERCAME!**
- **But HOW?**

Revelation 12

Formula for Victory

- **12:11 – Three answers are given as to HOW:**
 1. By the **blood of the Lamb**. God, through His grace, provided the means of forgiveness by sacrificing Christ! Thus, He purified our souls!
1 Peter 1:18-20; Ephesians 2:8-9, 10-11; 1 Peter 1:22-23; Romans 6:3-4; Revelation 1:5-6.
 2. And by the **word of their testimony**. More than confessing their sins (1 John 1:9) – unashamed confession of their faith shown in their faithful lives. Unwilling to bow to Caesar as God! Committed Christians are known by the lives they live!
 - Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10; Galatians 6:7-8.

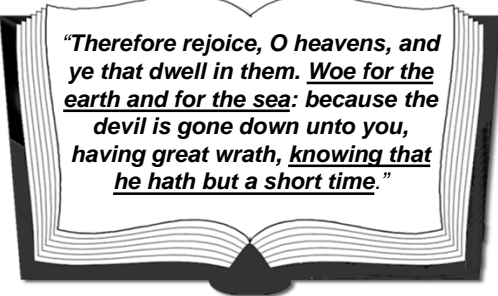
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Formula for Victory

- **12:11 – Three answers are given as to HOW:**
 1. By the **blood of the Lamb**.
 2. And by the **word of their testimony**.
 3. And **they loved not their lives unto the death**. Total commitment and love for God was seen in their willingness to die for their faith! No worldly compromise. Understood that God – not men – are to be feared! Obeyed the gospel and lived it!
 - Matthew 10:28; 16:26

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:12



"Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe for the earth and for the sea: because the devil is gone down unto you, having great wrath, knowing that he hath but a short time."

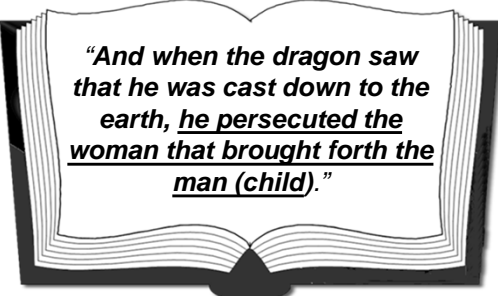
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Cause to Rejoice!

- All who belong to God can **rejoice!**
- The heavenly angels and all the loyal saints who emerged from the great tribulation celebrate because of **Satan's defeat!**
- **"Woe to the earth"** he has lost in heaven, and only the earth is left!
 - Has only a **"short time"** to persecute God's people!
 - cf. Revelation 6:9-11
 - He knows his time is limited, so turns his evil arsenal **on the church** – God's children!

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:13



"And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman that brought forth the man (child)."

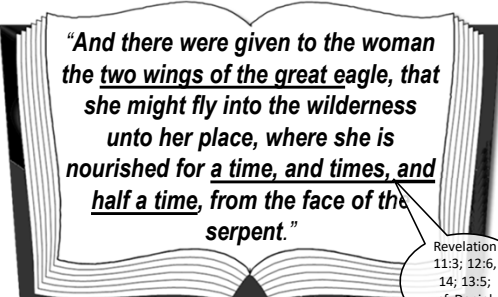
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The Woman Persecuted

- Satan knows he must fight on earth.
- This **antagonism** originated with Satan's hatred for Christ!
- He turns his attention to the **children of his conqueror!**
- **Primary application** to Revelation is the Roman persecution, the **beast's** great persecution of the **church**.
- Yet, to this day Satan persecutes God's children by encouraging them to **abandon their faith!**

Revelation 12

Revelation 12:14



"And there were given to the woman the two wings of the great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness unto her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."

Revelation 11:3; 12:6, 14; 13:5; cf. Daniel 7:25



Revelation 12
<h2><u>Flight of the Woman</u></h2>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. Three and a half years is equivalent to 1,260 days (verse 6) and forty-two months occurring elsewhere in the book.<ul style="list-style-type: none">– The two witnesses shall prophesy 1,260 days (11:3).– The holy city shall be trodden under foot forty-two months (11:2; 13:5).– The woman is nourished for a time, times, and half a time (12:6, 14).• The fourth kingdom would war against the saints for a “time, times, and the dividing of time” (Daniel 7:25). The fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy is revealed to John. The recipients are under severe persecution from the Roman Empire.• The promise being assured throughout Revelation is that God will nourish His people through the time of testing.