

The Book Of Revelation - Chapters Twelve & Thirteen

The Woman and The Dragon

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: 2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. 5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and [to] his throne. 6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days.

War In Heaven

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, [ye] heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. 13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man [child]. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

- Revelation 12 & 13 introduce us to the three key characters in the last half of the Tribulation, a "Satanic Trinity" that opposes God:
 - (1) The Dragon - Satan
 - (2) The Beast From The Sea - Antichrist
 - (3) The Beast From The Earth - False Prophet
- There are also three symbolic women that figure prominently in the book of Revelation, one of which is mentioned in chapter 12:
 - (1) The Woman Giving Birth - Israel (ch.12)
 - (2) The Harlot - Apostate World Church (ch.17)
 - (3) The Pure Bride - True Apostolic Church (ch.19)
- **John sees two wonders ("signs") in Heaven; emphasizing history leading to the Tribulation:**
 - (1) **THE WOMAN GIVING BIRTH - ISRAEL**
 - Joseph's dream foreshadowed this (Gen. 37:9)
 - A frequent type of Israel (Is. 26:17, 66:7-8)
 - She gave birth to the Messiah (Rom. 9:5)
 - Satan (ie: Herod) tried to kill Him (Matt. 2:16)
 - Jesus will rule all nations (Rev. 12:5, 19:15)
 - result of persecution in middle of Tribulation: flight to wilderness (Matt. 24:16) for 42 months
 - this will be the worst anti-Semitism the world has ever seen, but God will protect a remnant!
 - only 1/3 of Israel will survive! (Zech. 13:8-9)
 - (2) **THE GREAT RED DRAGON - SATAN**
 - positively Satan (v.9); "Dragon" 13X in book
 - 7 heads = 7 mountains (Rev. 17:9)
 - 10 horns = 10 kings (Rev. 17:12)
 - these are the same as the beast in Rev. 13:1, because Satan controls the Antichrist!
 - Rev. 12:4 - Satan cast out of Heaven in PAST, with 1/3 of angels (Is. 14:12-15, Ez. 28:11-19)
 - Rev. 12:7-10 - Satan cast out of Heaven in FUTURE, & forever banished (mid-Tribulation)
- **John also sees a literal "current" war in Heaven:**
 - Michael (the archangel protector of Israel) leads God's angels (Dn. 10:13,21; 12:1; Jude 9)
 - the devil is cast down to earth, tries to destroy Israel; he knows he only has 42 months left!
 - Satan's banishment brings joy to Heaven but woe to earth (he now completely possesses Antichrist)
 - Israel helped by "eagle's wings" (divinity):
 - Exodus from Egypt (Exodus 19:4)
 - Wandering in Wilderness (Deut. 32:11-12)
 - Return from Babylon (Isaiah 40:31)
 - Satan sends flood (people - Rev. 17:15, Is. 17:12) but the earth ("acts of God," etc.?) helps Israel
- **A POSSIBLE SCENARIO (?)**

Perhaps Satan will be present at the Judgment Seat of Christ (Rom. 14:10-12, 1 Cor. 3:10-15, 2 Cor. 5:10-11) as the "accuser" of the brethren (Job 1-2, Zech. 3); he fails in his last attempt to condemn the church (Rev. 12:11, Eph. 5:24-27) and is cast out of Heaven, never to have access again!

The Beast From The Sea

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who [is] like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty [and] two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. 8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. 9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. 10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

The Beast From The Earth

11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. 12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by [the means of] those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number [is] Six hundred threescore [and] six.

THE ANTICHRIST

- rises up out of the sea (chaotic events involving the world's people - Daniel 7:2-3, Rev. 17:15)
- will be empowered by Satan (v. 2, 4)
- will be worshipped by the world (v. 4, 8, 12, 15)
- begins his career as a Peacemaker (Rev. 6:2)
- emerges as the ultimate military power (v. 4)
- will have a government that is a composite of past military kingdoms (v. 2, Daniel 7:2-7)
- will have weaknesses in his kingdom that will cause him problems (Dan. 2:41-43, 11:40-44)
- is represented by a beast with seven heads (seven mountains of Rome - Rev. 17:9, 18) and 10 horns (ten kingdoms - Daniel 7:24, Rev. 17:12) - this shows us a "Revived Holy Roman Empire" (the logical conclusion of the "ecumenical" & "new age" movements, a religious world government)
- will blaspheme God (v.1, 6) - blasphemy can be defined as calling human things divine, divine things human, good things evil, or evil things good
- persecutes those with faith in God (v. 7)
- makes - then breaks - a 7 year covenant with the Jews involving their temple and peace (Dan. 9:27)
- will control the world's economy (v. 17)
- will set himself up as a god (2 Thess. 2:3-4)
- will have a deadly wound that is healed (v. 3) - either literal or symbolic of his government
- is the last of many false Messiahs in history who manifest the antichrist spirit (Mt. 24:24, 1 Jo. 2:18)
- will be defeated at Armageddon (Rev. 19:20)

THE FALSE PROPHET

- is identified positively in Rev. 16:13, 19:20, 20:10
- has religious authority (horns - v.11) but not political authority (no crowns on the horns)
- will craftily deceive the world ("like a lamb" - v.11)
- will receive his power from Satan, who resides in the Antichrist ("before him" - v.12, "in the sight of the beast" - v.14) - Satan is not omnipresent!
- will amaze the world with miracles (v.13, 14)
- will promote worship of the Antichrist (v.12,15)
- will use his religious influence to help the Antichrist control the world's economy (v.16, 17)
- will promote a "mark" that is a counterfeit and a mockery of the "seal of God" (Rev. 7:2-4, 22:4)

- NOTE: The Hebrew and Greek languages are alpha-numeric (they have no separate numerals, so each letter has a numeric value). The Antichrist's name CAN be identified by it's numeric value of 666, BUT ONLY IN HEBREW OR GREEK. This should be looked at as a warning to Tribulation saints rather than a sign to those in the church age.

- **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO SALVATION FOR ANYONE WHO TAKES THE MARK OF THE BEAST IN THE TRIBULATION (Rev. 14:9-11)**