

Lecture 27 – Revelation 12: Vision of Woman, Child & Dragon

A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days. Revelation 12:1-6

Key Terms

Woman and child, Michael vs. Satan, dragon, battle

Lecture Objectives

- Outline and summarize the vision of Revelation 12, especially noting its role in the context of Revelation
- Explore the impact that this vision has upon your life and ministry

Preliminary Questions

- How have you interpreted (or heard interpreted) the Revelation 12 vision of the woman, child, and dragon? How has that shaped or directed your Christian life and ministry?

Revelation 12: Vision of Woman, Child & Dragon

I. Introduction

- A. Context: Rev. 11:15-19 describes last day (π 2) again
 1. Seven seals end with affirmation of God's reign
 2. Part two of Revelation discloses conflict behind history
- B. The vision: Satan's opposition described
- C. Overview:
 1. Roots of sorrow and persecution on earth.
 2. Rev. 4-11 describe this age
 3. 12-14 explain reasons for conflict and suffering.
- D. Vision summarized
 1. 12:1-6 Splendid woman gives birth; Dragon seeks to devour ruler child who escapes
 2. 12:7-9 War between Satan and archangel Michael; Dragon loses; hurled down
 3. 12:10-12 Effects of Satan's downfall 1) Rejoice - accuser hurled down, 2) Temporary woe
 4. 12:13-16 Dragon pursues the woman; ever failing, the dragon persists

II. Vision and Symbols Explained (12:1-16)

- A. Woman is (12:17) ...
- B. The child is ...
 1. Reasons:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
- C. Dragon is (12:9) ... His nature and methods:
 1. Satan as agent of destruction throughout Bible and history

2. His mouth:
 3. His accusations:
 4. His names:
 5. The river:
 6. His power, crowns and horns > direct attacks
- D. The Battle with Michael:
- E. The dragon in summary:
- F. Point: though powerful, the dragon is defeated again and again. Child and woman are safe.
- G. Reflection: Satan, a potent, maligned creature is defeated five times over...Seeks help