

## The Woman of Revelation of Revelation 12

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Revelation 12:1-17 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth.

<sup>3</sup> And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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.

### ***Satan Thrown Out of Heaven***

<sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the **Devil** and **Satan**, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

<sup>10</sup> 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 have come, for the **accuser of our brethren**, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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."

### ***The Woman Persecuted***

<sup>13</sup> Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

## I. Who is "The male child"? (Rev. 12:5)

### A. "Rule all the nations with an iron scepter" (12:5).

Psalm 2:7-9 (NIV) <sup>7</sup> He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. <sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. <sup>9</sup> You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery." [nations – *goyim*]

Revelation 19:15 (NKJV) – Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

**B. "Caught up to God" (12:5).** harpazo = "to snatch out"; Latin: rapiemur or rapturo

1 Thessalonians 4:17 (NKJV) – Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

**Jesus** – Acts 1:9-11 (NKJV) – <sup>9</sup> Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

<sup>10</sup> And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, <sup>11</sup> who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."

**Elijah** – 2 Kings 2:11 (NKJV) – Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire *appeared* with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

**C. "Caught up to His throne" (Rev. 12:5 & 5:6)**

**II. Who is this woman of Rev. 12?**

**A. She is not Jesus.**

**B. She is not Mary. (Though she is most blessed among woman; Luke 1:26-28)**

**C. She is Israel.**

Genesis 37:9-11 (NKJV) – <sup>9</sup> Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me." <sup>10</sup> So he told *it* to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What *is* this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?" <sup>11</sup> And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter *in mind*.

- Joseph's brothers bowed before Joseph – the one they sold into slavery.
- Israel will bow before Jesus – the One they sold. And, He will receive them with the same grace that Joseph exemplified.

Zechariah 12:10 (TLV) – "Then I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication, when they will look toward Me whom they pierced. They will mourn for him as one mourns for an only son and grieve bitterly for him, as one grieves for a firstborn.

Isaiah 66:7-8 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> “Before she was in labor, she gave birth;  
Before her pain came,  
She delivered a male child.

<sup>8</sup> Who has heard such a thing?  
Who has seen such things?  
Shall the earth be made to give birth in one day?  
Or shall a nation be born at once?  
For as soon as Zion was in labor,  
She gave birth to her children.

During the Last Days, Israel will go into labor.

Jeremiah 30:6-7 (NKJV)

<sup>6</sup> Ask now, and see,  
Whether a man is ever in labor with child?  
So why do I see every man *with* his hands on his loins  
Like a woman in labor,  
And all faces turned pale?

<sup>7</sup> Alas! For that day *is* great,  
So that none *is* like it;  
And it *is* the time of Jacob’s trouble,  
But he shall be saved out of it.

#### D. She (Israel) is a “great sign” (Rev. 12:1).

σημεῖον μέγα – *semeion megas* – “MEGA sign.”

Romans 9:1-5 (TLV) – <sup>4</sup>who are Israelites. To them belong the adoption and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the *Torah* and the Temple service [i.e., patterns of worship] and the promises. <sup>5</sup>To them belong the patriarchs—and from them, according to the flesh, the Messiah, who is over all, God, blessed forever. Amen.

##### 1) Israel: a great sign of the 1<sup>st</sup> coming. (“To the Jew first”)

Daniel 9:24 (NKJV) – “Seventy ‘sevens’ are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy.

**Do you want an explanation of the 70 weeks?** Grant Jeffrey, Armageddon: Appointment with Destiny. Or, Jack VanImpe, Final Mysteries Unsealed.

##### 2) Israel: a great sign of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming. (“To the Jew first”)

Matthew 24:15-21 (NKJV) – <sup>15</sup>“Therefore when you see the ‘*abomination of desolation*,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand), <sup>16</sup>“then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup>Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. <sup>18</sup>And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. <sup>19</sup>But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! <sup>20</sup>And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup>For then there will be great

tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Past events will be repeated as a sign – 1 Corinthians 10:11 (NKJV) – These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.

Matthew 24:32-34 (NKJV) – <sup>32</sup> “Now learn this lesson from the **fig tree**: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. <sup>33</sup> Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>34</sup> I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.

**Israel is the fig tree:** Hosea 9:10 (NIV) – When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree.

### E. Israel experiences satanic anti-Semitism in the Last Days.

The last half of Tribulation period is emphasized: 3 references to exactly 3 ½ years:

- Rev. 12:6 (& 11:3) mentions 1,260 days.
- Rev. 12:14 mentions to "a time, times and half a time."
- Rev. 11:2 mentions 42 months.

Daniel 9:27 (NIV) – He will confirm a covenant with many for one `seven.' In the **middle** of the `seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of *the temple* he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Revelation 12:17 indicates that the persecution will be especially strong against messianic Jews.

Zechariah 13:8-9 (NKJV) –

<sup>8</sup> In the whole land," declares the Lord,  
"two-thirds will be struck down and perish;  
yet one-third will be left in it.

<sup>9</sup> This third I will bring into the fire;  
I will refine them like silver  
and test them like gold.  
They will call on my name  
and I will answer them;  
I will say, 'They are my people,'  
and they will say, 'The Lord is our God.' ”

### III. Who is the great, fiery red dragon?

This passage gives us 4 names for the devil.

1. **Dragon** (12:3): appears 13 times in the New Testament. All of them are in Revelation (12:3, 4, 7 [twice], 9, 13, 16, 17; 13:2, 4, 11; 16:13; 20:2).
2. **Serpent of old** (12:9): Refers to the fall in Genesis 3. In Revelation 12:9, Satan is hurled down to the earth referring to his fall. This title reminds us that he is also indicted in the fall of man. So, the end is somehow connected to the beginning.
3. **Devil** (12:9): Diabolos which means slandorous. (Prov. 6:16-19; 18:8; Mt. 12:36-37).
4. **Satan** (12:9): Greek Satanas; Hebrew word means adversary.

#### A. Why is the dragon red?

- He is a bloody murderer. (Jn. 8:44)
- This could be a reference to Herod? (Mt. 2:16)

#### B. Why does the dragon have 7 heads and 10 horns?

- 7: number of perfection (Psa. 12:6); Heads: perfect intelligence
- 10: number of completeness (10 Commandments, 10 plagues). Horns: Complete power

**Two pictures of Satan:** (Spiritual Authority by Watchman Nee.)

Ezekiel 28:12-17 (NKJV) –

<sup>12</sup> “Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God:

“You were the seal of perfection,

**Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.**

<sup>13</sup> You were in Eden, the garden of God;

Every precious stone was your covering:

The sardius, topaz, and diamond,

Beryl, onyx, and jasper,

Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold.

The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes

**[Musical instruments]**

Was prepared for you on the day you were created.

<sup>14</sup> “You were the anointed cherub who covers;

I established you;

You were on the holy mountain of God;

You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

<sup>15</sup> You were **perfect in your ways** from the day you were created,

Till iniquity was found in you.

<sup>16</sup> “By the abundance of your trading

You became filled with violence within,

And you sinned;

Therefore I cast you as a profane thing

Out of the mountain of God;

And I destroyed you, O covering cherub,

From the midst of the fiery stones.

<sup>17</sup> “Your **heart was lifted up** because of your beauty;

**You corrupted your wisdom** for the sake of your splendor;

I cast you to the ground,  
I laid you before kings,  
That they might gaze at you.

Isaiah 14:9-17 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> “Hell <sup>3</sup>from beneath is excited about you,  
To meet *you* at your coming;  
It stirs up the dead for you,  
All the chief ones of the earth;  
It has raised up from their thrones  
All the kings of the nations.

<sup>10</sup> They all shall speak and say to you:  
‘Have you also become as weak as we?  
Have you become like us?’

<sup>11</sup> Your pomp is brought down to Sheol,  
And the sound of your **stringed instruments**;  
The maggot is spread under you,  
And worms cover you.’

**[Musical instruments]**

<sup>12</sup> “How you are fallen from heaven,  
O Lucifer, son of the morning!  
*How* you are cut down to the ground,  
You who weakened the nations!

<sup>13</sup> For you have said in your heart:  
‘I will ascend into heaven,  
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;  
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation  
On the farthest sides of the north;

<sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,  
I will be like the Most High.’

<sup>15</sup> Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,  
To the lowest depths of the Pit.

### **The stones in Satan and in the priest’s breast piece.**

Ezekiel 28:13 (NIV) [A description of the Devil.]

You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: **ruby**<sup>1</sup>, **topaz**<sup>2</sup> and **emerald**<sup>3</sup>, **chrysolite**<sup>4</sup>, **onyx**<sup>5</sup> and **jasper**<sup>6</sup>, **sapphire**<sup>7</sup>, **turquoise**<sup>8</sup> and **beryl**<sup>9</sup>. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.

Exodus 28:17-20 (NIV) [A description of the breastplate]

**17** Then mount four rows of precious stones on it. In the first row there shall be a **ruby**<sup>1</sup>, a **topaz**<sup>2</sup> and a **beryl**<sup>9</sup>; **18** in the second row a **turquoise**<sup>8</sup>, a **sapphire**<sup>7</sup> and an **emerald**<sup>3</sup>; **19** in the third row a **jasper**<sup>6</sup>, an **agate** and an **amethyst**; **20** in the fourth row a **chrysolite**<sup>4</sup>, an **onyx**<sup>5</sup> and a **jasper**<sup>6</sup>. Mount them in gold filigree settings.