

The Revelation

(21) The Unseen Battle

Identifying the cast...Rev.12:1-7

What is specifically different about what John sees next? 12:1

John sees a "great sign". Sign = semeion, sign, wonder, a token or indication. Not literal.

What is this sign, and where have we seen this before? 12:1; Gen.37:9-11

A woman, clothed w/sun, moon under feet, 12 stars/crown. Joseph's dream was very close.

The woman is about to give birth. To Whom? vs.2, 5 See Rev.19:15

The male child is, of course, Christ. He will rule with a rod of iron.

So what is the woman representing (a token or indication of)?

This is the nation of Israel from whom the Messiah has come. Note the long time span...

John now sees another 'sign' in heaven. What is the sign and what does it represent? vs.3, 9

A great red dragon, 7 heads, 10 horns/crowns. The dragon represents Satan, the devil.

What is represented by the 7 heads and 10 horns/crowns? 17:9-12

7 heads = 7 kingdoms / kings. 10 horns are 10 kings who will rule with antichrist.

Detail the 7 kingdoms. 17:9-10 (Past, present, future is all at AD90, writing of the Revelation)

5 past (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medio-Persian, Greece), 1 is (Rome), 1 future (Antichrist)

So what is the great red dragon w/7 heads and 10 horns represent?

It's Satan as seen in his political rule from start to finish. 7 world ruling kingdoms...

In addition to the visible world kingdoms, what else does John see? vs.4, 7 (note, to the earth)

Satan 'swept away' 1/3 of the 'stars of heaven' ('his angels', vs.7, known as demons).

What does vs.6 indicate about Israel, the woman in this great sign? Mt.24:15-22 Zech.13:8-9

Israel (woman) flees from Satan (dragon). God protects remnant/last half of trib, 1260days

And who is Michael and his angels? Dan.10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9

He is one of the chief princes (archangel) amongst holy angels, uniquely assigned Israel.

The unseen battle...12:7-10

And when we see Michael, what is going on? cp. Job 1:6; 2:1 Eph.6:10-12 Result?

There is a war in heaven! Michael + holy angels vs Satan + demons. Evil is thrown out...

When this happens, what is the response in heaven? vs.10

Now salvation and power and authority of God and Christ has come!

What insight are we given into one of the works of Satan? vs.10 Job 1-2; Lu.22:31; Jn.10:27-30

He accuses believers continuously to God the Father. Tries to have us 'rejected'.. NO WAY

How was the casting out of Satan viewed for heaven? vs.12a and for earth? vs.12b

Rejoicing in heaven, peace at last. Woe to earth. Great wrath, short time, 1260 days??