

1 **Book of Revelation**

Chapter 12: Woman, Child & Dragon

2 **Revelation 12**

•¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, ⁶ and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days. – Revelation 12:1-6 (ESV)

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3 **Revelation 12**

- A woman
 - Clothed with the sun
 - Moon under her feet
 - A crown of 12 stars
- Woman was pregnant and gave birth
- Red dragon appears
 - 7 heads
 - 10 horns
 - 7 diadems

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4 **Revelation 12**

- Dragon
 - Tail swept 1/3 of stars of heaven to earth
 - Dragon stood before the woman as she gave birth
 - Dragon wanted to kill ("devour") it

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- The woman
 - Gave birth to a male child
 - Would be king of all kings
 - Caught up to God and His throne

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5 **Revelation 12**

- Woman fled into wilderness
- To a place prepared by God
- She will be nourished for 1,260 days (42 months/3 ½ years)

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- The imagery depicted here all has one literal meaning.

6 Revelation 12

- Revelation 12:1 refers BACK to Genesis 37:9-11
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- 9 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."
- 10 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?" 11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter *in mind*.
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7 Revelation 12

- "There are many figurative references to Israel as
 - a *travailing woman (pregnant and in labor) in the Old Testament (Is. 26:17-18; 66:7-9; Jer. 4:31; 13:21; Mic. 4:10; 5:3).*
 - *She (Israel) eventually gave birth to Christ (Revelation 12:5).*
 - *In Genesis 37:9-10, the "sun" corresponds to Jacob, the "moon" to Rachel, and the '12 stars' to Israel's 12 sons (cf. 7:5-8; 21:12)." – Dr. Thomas Constable*
- The woman getting ready to give birth represents
 - The nation of Israel, and
 - The birth of Jesus *through* the nation of Israel
- The context of the text points to Israel as the "woman," not Mary
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8 Revelation 12

- Second sign of Revelation 12 appears:
 - "*And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.*"
 - The "dragon" is Satan himself
 - He is the power and influencer behind the "beast" with
 - 7 heads
 - 10 horns
 - 7 diadems/crowns
 - Satan has always tried to stop God's plans
 - Tried to destroy Creation
 - Tried to keep Israel from becoming nation
 - Tried to kill Jesus before His time
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9 Revelation 12

- In all this, John is seeing
 - Word pictures
 - An allegorical view of literal facts

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 • *"5 And her Child was caught up to God and His throne. ⁶ 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."*

- The "woman" (Remnant of Jews from Israel), flees into wilderness
 - This occurs once Antichrist is revealed (2 Thessalonians 2) to the world and declares himself God by sitting inside Holy of Holies

10 **Revelation 12**

- He WILL rule all nations with a rod of iron (Millennial Kingdom)
- The child caught up to heaven
 - Refers to Jesus' ascension
 - This is not a reference to any Rapture of the Church here
- The Jews flee to the hills during the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation (or 42 months, or 1,260 days)
- This is exactly what Jesus meant when He spoke of this in Matthew 24:15-22 – Jews will FLEE out of Jerusalem

11 **Revelation 12**

- Jews who flee
 - Go to a place prepared by God, and
 - Will be fed and taken care of for the remainder of Tribulation (1,260 days)
- Revelation 12 says nothing about
 - The Rapture, or
 - The start of the Tribulation
- Revelation 12:1-6 is a very brief overview of Israel's history to the birth, death and ascension of Jesus and looks ahead to His rule over the world in the Millennial Kingdom (1,000 years)

12 **Revelation 12**

- Revelation 11:18 Reign of Christ
- Nations are angry when God's wrath comes
- Wrath of humanity is impotent
- Wrath of God is omnipotent
- The (righteous) dead are judged at this time (evil dead are judged after Millennium)

13 **Revelation 12**

- Next time: Revelation 12:7-17
- War breaks out in heaven
- Satan thrown out
- The Woman persecuted