

4th ... Chapters 12-14 ... The Seven Signs and Symbols of Persecution and Promise

➤ THE FOCUS – CONFLICT – Genesis 3:14-15

➤ THE THEME – TRIUMPH of Christ

1st – **The Woman (12:1-2, 5-6, 13-17)** – Isaiah 54:1-6,11-13... 66:7-13... Micah 5:2-4... 2 Pet 2:9.

2nd – **The Dragon (12:3-4,7-12)** –

3rd – **The Beast from the sea (13:1-10)**

Vern S. Poythress – ‘The state undertakes to help you by stuffing you with what is good for you, according to its supposedly enlightened, beneficent judgment. And if you do not agree, you are socially unfit and maladapted... To this end, the state uses education, financial penalties, financial inducements, endless regulations, and bureaucrats overseeing and directing your decisions... untangling ourselves from this clinging web of idolatry is like death. For the web exists inside us as well as outside, in the ways which we have already, as members of our society, absorbed its godless assumptions... Thus, a consistent Christian will find it (increasingly) difficult to fit in and mix with pagan society. The difficulties may be subtle, as in “tolerant” modern democratic societies, or they may be blatant and harsh, as in the Roman Empire or modern totalitarian countries, where Christians suffer confiscation of their property (or worse)’ – The Returning King (p. 146-147)

4th – **The Beast from the earth (13:11-18)** – 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

5th – **The Lamb with His Saints (14:1-5)**

6th – **Angelic Preachers (14:6-11)**...

Interlude ... 14:12-13

- PERSEVERE

- KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

- BE BLESSED IN DEATH

7th – Ripe Harvest (14:14-20) – Isaiah 63:1-6