

DAY 33: THE DRAGON'S FINAL ASSAULT AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF GOD

I. AN OVERVIEW OF REVELATION 12

- A. John is looking up to the heavens and a sign appears, like a movie projector (v. 1)
- B. At the End of the Age, Satan believes that he is the center of the story
 - 1. He's a strong adversary, but he's arrogant, he's insane
 - 2. The story has already been written, he loses, yet he still tries to win
- C. "A male child" (v. 5) relating back to the original prophecy in [Genesis 3:15](#)
 - 1. History is defined by this battle against the two seed-lines
- D. The serpent and all of his followers will be crushed under Jesus' feet
- E. "The great dragon, that ancient serpent, who is called Satan" (v. 9)
- F. The dragon and his angels fight back, but will be thrown out and defeated (v. 9-10)
 - 1. This period is, in reality, a short amount of time, 3.5 years
- G. Satan realizes he's been thrown out and so he attacks the woman (v. 13)
- H. The language of "the wings of eagles" reminds us of the first Exodus (v. 14)
- I. The language of a flood is often used to describe war (v. 15)
 - 1. All of Satan's efforts in the final days, although he will prosper for a time, will eventually amount to nothing
- J. The Lord's plan has always been to select Israel as His Holy People
- K. Satan goes after Israel (the woman) and her other offspring (those who follow Jesus) (v. 17)

II. THE WOMAN AS VIRGO

- A. The false theory that the woman is an astrological sign in the heavens that we can look for as the stars align in a particular way
- B. John looks to the heavens, could be interpreted as looking to the stars
- C. A focus on the stars proclaiming the Gospel
- D. Important to allow the Bible to speak on its own (not the Bible and...)
- E. Inconsistencies in the number of stars between charts
- F. Inconsistencies between what/who Leo represents
- G. Appropriating pagan practices can be dangerous, but the Lord can shed light on the true story behind these practices to fulfill all our needs in Himself

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III. THE WOMAN AS MARY

- A. The false belief that the woman is pregnant, like Mary, giving birth to the Messiah
- B. Mary was the mother of Jesus; however, the exalted manner in which the woman is displayed does not match theologically
 - 1. The worship of Mary developed much later in Catholicism
 - 2. As Protestants, we must not fall into the trap of reactionary theology by belittling Mary, she was in fact chosen and highly favored

IV. THE WOMAN AS THE CHURCH

- A. This does not make sense because Christ birthed the church, the church did not birth Christ
- B. This belief falls into the category of Replacement Theology
- C. The Lord has always uniquely called Israel as His special people ([Genesis 12](#))
- D. At the same time, He loves everyone and He extends the gospel to all people

V. THE WOMAN AS ISRAEL

- A. We must understand the centrality of Israel so that we can partner with what God is doing
- B. At the front end of the Great Tribulation is Satan persecuting the woman, Israel ([v. 13](#))
 - 1. He will also go after Christians ([v. 17](#)), but Israel is front and center
- C. Biblical precedent where Israel is described as stars ([Genesis 37:9](#))
- D. The people in Israel today are God's people
 - 1. The Lord identifies with the people of Israel ([Joel 3:1-4](#))
 - 2. The Lord will pour out His spirit on the inhabitants of Israel in the moment when Israel is saved ([Zechariah 12:2, 7-11](#))
- E. The majority of those in Israel right now are not following Him; however, they are still God's beloved
- F. Those who survive will be His people ([Jeremiah 31:1-2](#))
- G. All His promises will be fulfilled through The New Covenant ([Ezekiel 36:25-28](#))