
The Book of Revelation: Session 17

Revelation 12:1-13:1a

YouTube: “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 12-13:1-10 | Gary Hamrick”
(taught on October 21, 2020 | 37:34 minutes)

Notes:

Revelation 12: A woman, a child, and a dragon

- The woman is the nation of Israel
- The dragon is Satan (“the serpent of old,” “the devil” (accuser), “Satan” (adversary), “the one who deceives the whole world,” “the accuser of the brethren”)
- The male child is Jesus Christ

The Antichrist (1-2 John): “The Beast” (Revelation), “Man of Lawlessness/Son of Perdition” (2 Thess 2:3), “Foolish Shepherd” (Zech 11:15-17), “King who exalts himself” (Dan 11:36-45)

Introduction: J. B. Phillips: “That burning bush clearly symbolized Israel, which cannot be consumed, despite the ceaseless hatred of her foes, because God is in her midst. Israel cannot be assimilated into the nations, nor can she be exterminated by the nations. She is a burning bush in the wilderness.”

Questions:

1. Read Revelation 12:1-5. Some say that this woman is the nation of Israel (i.e. all Jews), others think she is the righteous remnant of Israel (i.e. believing Jews). Either way, the dragon (Satan) is set on destroying her “son” (Jesus). Read Genesis 3:13-15. Give examples of how Satan has insighted people over the centuries to destroy this “son” and His people. It has been said that the Jewish people are one bit of evidence, proving the existence of God and the truthfulness of the Bible. Do you agree or disagree, and why?

2. Read Revelation 12:6-12. John MacArthur hypothesizes: “This ultimate battle may be triggered by the Rapture of the church. ... Possibly, as raptured believers pass through their realm, the prince of the power of the air and his demon hosts will try to hinder their passage.” For sure, this event in heaven occurs by the half-way point of the seven-year Tribulation (if not before), as the Accuser is defeated and cast out of heaven, to accuse no more! Not only did the armies of heaven win this battle, but others play a role in this victory. Who else contributed, according to verse 11? What are the implications of this for us today?

3. Read Revelation 12:13-13:1a. Many believe that, as the Antichrist sets his sights on exterminating the Jewish people, they will flee to the mountains, east of the Dead Sea, where God will protect them and provide for them. Warren Wiersbe comments: “It is interesting that the remnant’s escape from Satan is described in terms of a flying eagle, for this is a repeated image in the Old Testament with reference to Israel.” What does God, this divine eagle, do for His people, according to the passages below? How does this truth impact you?
 - Exodus 19:3-6

 - Deuteronomy 32:10-12

 - Isaiah 40:25-31

Before praying together, read Ephesians 6:10-18.

Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1993:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-41/the-war-of-the-ages-part-1>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-42/the-war-of-the-ages-part-2>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-43/the-war-of-the-ages-part-3>