

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

**Bereans Adult Bible Fellowship
Placerita Baptist Church**

Revelation 12:1–17

- 1 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;
- 2 and she was with child; and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.
- 3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems.

Revelation 12:1–17

- 4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child.
- 5 And she gave birth to a son, a male *child*, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

Revelation 12:1–17

- 6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.**
- 7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,**
- 8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.**

Revelation 12:1–17

- 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Revelation 12:1–17

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, “Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.

Revelation 12:1–17

- 11 “And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.
- 12 “For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has *only* a short time.”

Revelation 12:1–17

- 13 And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *child*.
- 14 But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Revelation 12:1–17

- 15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.**
- 16 But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth.**

Revelation 12:1–17

17 So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.





Place in the Book of Revelation

- I.** What you have seen (Rev 1).
- II.** What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
- III.** What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).
 - A.** The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)
 - B.** The Seven Trumpets (8:2–11:19)
 - C.** The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

1. The Two Signs in the Heavens (12:1–17)
 - a. The “Great Sign”—The Woman (12:1–2, 5–6)
 - What is a “sign”?
 - ✓ First of **7** in Revelation.
 - ✓ Warning: Do not maintain a state of mind seeking signs.

Evil People Ask for Signs

Matthew 16:1–4

- 1 The Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Jesus, **they asked Him to show them a sign** from heaven.
- 2 But He replied to them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘*It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.*’
- 3 “And in the morning, ‘There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, **but cannot discern the signs of the times?**”

Matthew 16:1–4

- 4 “**An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign**; and a sign will not be given it, except the sign of Jonah.” And He left them and went away.

False Christs Perform Signs Matthew 24:24

“For false Christs and false prophets will arise and **will show great signs and wonders**, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.”

2 Thessalonians 2:8–9

- 8 Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming;
- 9 *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, **with all power and signs and false wonders,**

Signs Do Not Convert

Luke 16:30–31

- 30 “But he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!’
- 31 “But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, **they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.**’”

C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

- 1. The Two Signs in the Heavens (12:1–17)**
 - a. The “Great Sign”—The Woman (12:1–2, 5–6)**
 - Who is the woman?**

Isaiah 54:5

For **your husband is your Maker,**
Whose name is the LORD of hosts;
And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,
Who is called the God of all the earth.

Jeremiah 31:31–32

- 31 “Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
- 32 not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, **although I was a husband to them,**” declares the LORD.

Hosea 2:16

“It will come about in that day,” declares the
LORD,

“That you will call Me Ishi **[my husband]**
And will no longer call Me Baali **[my lord]**.”

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 - a. The “Great Sign”—The Woman (12:1–2, 5–6)**
 - **Who is the woman?**
 - ✓ **crown of twelve stars and is clothed with the sun and had the moon under her feet (12:1).**
 - ✓ **She gave birth to a son (12:5)**

Romans 9:4–5

- 4 **who are Israelites**, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory and the covenants and the giving of the Law and the *temple* service and the promises,
- 5 whose are the fathers, and **from whom is the Christ according to the flesh**, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time came,
God sent forth His Son,
born of a woman,
born under the Law,

C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

The Child

- **He is to rule all nations.**

Revelation 2:26–27

- ²⁶ He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS;
- ²⁷ AND **HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON**, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received *authority* from My Father;

Psalm 2

Revelation 19:15–16

- 15** From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and **He will rule them with a rod of iron**; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.
- 16** And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, **“KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”**

C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

The Child

- **He is to rule all nations.**
- **He was “caught up to God and to His throne.”**

Revelation 3:21

He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, **as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.**

Hebrews 12:2

fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and **has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Question for Discussion

**What
do we learn
about Christ
by means of the first sign?**

C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

- 1. The Two Signs in the Heavens (12:1–17)**
 - a. The “Great Sign”—The Woman (12:1–2, 5–6)**
 - Compare with Daniel 12:1–7. The woman is Israel, not the Church.**

Daniel 12:1–7

- 1 “Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over **the sons of your people**, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time **your people**, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.
- 2 “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

Daniel 12:1–7

- 3 “Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.
- 4 “But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.”

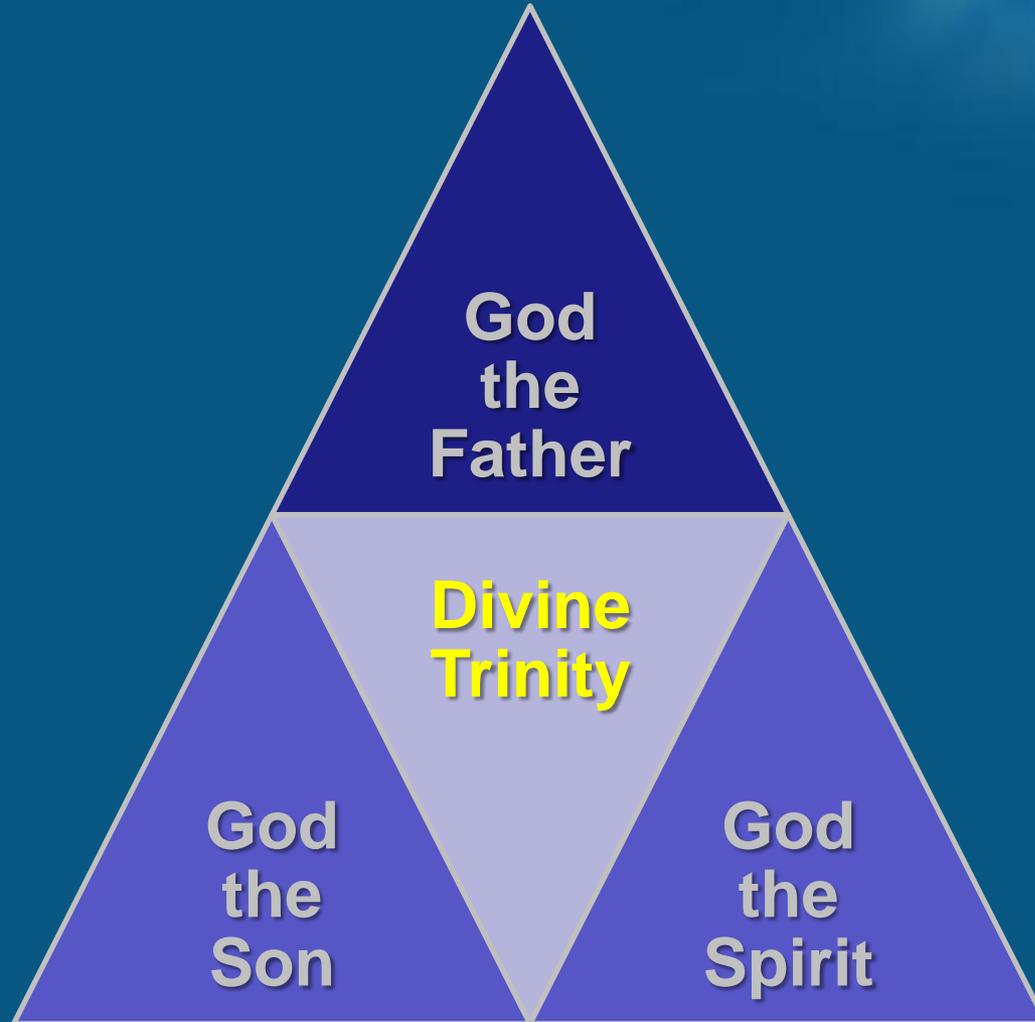
Daniel 12:1–7

- 5 Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river and the other on that bank of the river.
- 6 And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, **“How long will it be until the end of these wonders?”**

Daniel 12:1–7

- 7 I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be **for a time, times, and half a time**; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of **the holy people**, all these *events* will be completed.

Holy Trinity



Unholy Trinity



C. The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)

1. The Two Signs in the Heavens (12:1–17)
 - b. “Another Sign”—**The Dragon: First Person of the Unholy Trinity** (12:3–4, 7–17)
 - Who is the dragon? (see v. 9)

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 - Who is the dragon? (see v. 9)
 - ✓ “the serpent of old”

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I am afraid that, as **the serpent deceived Eve** by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of *devotion to Christ*.

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 - Who is the dragon? (see v. 9)
 - ✓ “the serpent of old”
 - ✓ “called the devil”

2 Timothy 2:26

and they may come to their senses *and* escape from **the snare of the devil**, having been held captive by him to do his will.

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- Who is the dragon? (see v. 9)
 - ✓ “the serpent of old”
 - ✓ “called the devil”
 - ✓ “Satan”

Zechariah 3:1

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him.

1 Peter 5:8

Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. **Your adversary**, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

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- Who is the dragon? (see v. 9)
 - ✓ “the serpent of old”
 - ✓ “called the devil”
 - ✓ “Satan”
 - ✓ “who deceives the whole world”

Question for Discussion

**What are
the goals
of the Devil's
unholy trinity?**

Isaiah 14:12–14

**12 “How you have fallen from heaven,
O star of the morning, son of the dawn!
You have been cut down to the earth,
You who have weakened the nations!**

**13 “But you said in your heart,
‘I will ascend to heaven;
I will raise my throne above the stars of
God,**

Isaiah 14:12–14

And I will sit on the mount of assembly In
the recesses of the north.

¹⁴ ‘I will ascend above the heights of the
clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High.’

Revelation 16:10

Then the fifth *angel* poured out his bowl on **the throne of the beast, and his kingdom** became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain,

Counterfeit Kingdom

- **Satan is a liar and a murderer (John 8:44).**
- **Satan is the god of this age who blinds the minds of unbelievers to the Gospel (2 Cor 4:4).**
- **Satan transforms himself into an angel of light (2 Cor 11:13–14).**
- **Satan counterfeits the “deep things of God” (1 Cor 2:6–13) with his own “deep things” (Rev 2:24).**

Revelation 8:13

Then I looked, and I heard an eagle flying in midheaven, saying with a loud voice, “**Woe, woe, woe** to those who dwell on the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!”

How the Saints Overcome Satan (v. 11)

- 1) “because of the blood of the Lamb”—they trusted in the merits of the physical death of Christ.
- 2) “because of the word of their testimony”—they publicly declared their faith even in the face of death.
- 3) “they did not love their life even to death”—an attitude of self-sacrifice.

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- The description of the dragon (12:3–4)
 - ✓ *7 heads* = 7 kings/kingdoms
 - ✓ *10 horns* = 10 contemporary kings
 - ✓ *7 diadems* = emphasis on rulership
 - ✓ *Sweeps away 1/3 of the stars*

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 - The dragon is cast out of Heaven (vv. 7–17)
 - ✓ War in the heavens.
 - ✓ Result of the dragon’s defeat.

The Cornered Dragon

- He turns on the woman, Israel (v. 12).
- He persecutes Israel for 3-1/2 years (vv. 13–17).
- The earth helps the remnant of Israel (v. 16).
- Israel flees into the wilderness (v. 17).

Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- **Jesus was born in the nation of Israel.**
- **Jesus' chief enemy is Satan.**
- **Jesus will make this world's kingdom His Kingdom.**
- **Jesus, after His death, ascended to God in Heaven.**
- **Jesus' death overcomes His enemy, Satan.**