

## REVELATION WORD BY WORD STUDY 18 (12:1-6)

### The Ultimate Downfall of Satan

**Introduction:** Before getting into verse 1 of this study, skip down to verse 9 (READ). We need to realize that the book of Revelation is NOT in Chronological order, nor is much of the Bible. Remember how this book of Revelation started? (DESCRIBE). Several hours are needed just to read this book and it took that much time for Jesus to preach it too. This book brings all loose ends together in order that we can understand how things are going to end up.

Chapter 1 is the introduction, 2, 3 are the history of the Church, 4, 5 finds the Church in heaven. Seven (7) years will pass before Jesus Christ comes back (the Tribulation period). We have studied the seals, the horses and the trumpets. The seventh trumpet has already sounded and that is the return of Jesus Christ and all is over when this happens. HOWEVER, here in chapter 12 we go back and begin to study in detail all the things going on during those seven years. What's going to happen during those seven years? That's the rest of the book. Do you want to know what the devil is doing during this time? That's this study.

Turn back to Ezekiel 28:11. This chapter has the most accurate account of the Devil and what he does (READ THE EZEKIEL PASSAGE, v 11)

v12 - "son of man" - the title for Jesus Christ

- "king of Tyres" - The king of Tyre
- "thus saith" - at this point God begins to describe the devil. The king of Tyre was filled with the devil and he was doing what the devil wanted him to do. So to describe the king of Tyre, God simply described the devil.
- "thou" - refers to the devil
- "sealest up the sum" - technical idiom showing that the devil was perfect in proportion. He is the most beautiful creature God ever created, the most beautiful angel or any earthly creation, first named Lucifer, "son of the morning." Now called the Devil, perfect in symmetry.
- "full of wisdom" - has fantastic genius. He can't be outsmarted, he is far smarter than any human being and is the smartest of all God's creations.
- "perfect in beauty" - Satan is the most attractive creation God has ever made (pictures of the devil in a red suit with horns and a pitchfork and a tail are all from the imagination of mankind) such images are all wrong. Satan is the most attractive and he will trip you up. He is tripping up many of our own congregation right now. He tells you that IF you'll follow him all will be glorious, etc.. BUT if you follow him, it won't be long until you're on the wrong trail and will be going away from God, miserable, upset, lives ruined, that's the devil.

v13 - "eden" - NOT where Adam was. This is an Eden before the garden of Eden, perhaps a million years before. The devil was here long before Adam and Eve.

- "precious stones" - all these stones make up the breastplate of the High Priest. These are also the kind of stones in the foundation of the New Jerusalem. Satan is the most beautifully dressed of all God's creatures.
- "tabrets and pipe" - (drum sound and flute) - refers to Satan's voice as it is the most beautiful voice of anyone ever living and the most persuasive salesman that ever lived. He comes to us in a beautiful voice and before we know it, we're trapped.

v14 - "anointed" - Remember that word? The devil was once the guardian angel of Jesus Christ. He was the most beautiful and his job was to be the guardian angel of Jesus Christ and God had to throw him from heaven. We will study that later on.

- I have set" - He was appointed by Jesus Christ to this important task.

- "walked up and down" - the idiom expressing the fact that the devil had access to Heaven. The devil spends a lot of time accusing us before God. He knows all about us and keeps a file on each of us. He knows us very well. Remember Job?
- "was perfect" - was? until when?
- "till iniquity was found" - There came a time when this beautiful creation dwelling in this perfect paradise had sin in his mind. He was going to displace God, take over God's throne. "till sin was found in thee.."

THAT'S THE FALL OF SATAN - He fell when he MENTALLY disobeyed God.

v16 - "multitude" - a most difficult translation, but we might understand it better as a PLAN. Satan had a plan for taking over God's place. He wasn't going to let Jesus Christ come and be born. He did his best and ALMOST stopped Him. Genesis 6 describes his stopping the human race (Adam and Eve) but Noah got by and God started over again and Jesus Christ came from the line of Noah.

- "violence" - no matter how good the devil's plan is, it always ends up in violence. We have but to look around at what's going on here.
  - "has sinned" - Satan's FIRST fall
  - "cast thee as profane" - THE SECOND FALL of Satan. IT WILL COME DURING THE TRIBULATION, 3 1/2 years before Jesus Christ returns. Remember, Revelation is not in chronological order. We are going back now and filling in. 3 1/2 years before Jesus returns, Satan is going to be thrown out of heaven and never have access again and at the end of the Tribulation, Satan will be locked up for 1,000 years and then at the end of the millenium, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire. THAT WILL BE SATAN'S THIRD AND FINAL FALL.
    - He sinned in heaven
    - He sinned in the middle of the Tribulation, was cast out of heaven.
    - At the end of the millenium, Satan is cast into the lake of fire
- Satan doesn't like what is going to happen to him and he wants you to believe that he's going to be ultimately victorious, but he isn't. God is going to win and Satan will lose.

v17 - Why is all this going to happen to the devil?

- "heart" - the mind. The sin of the devil against God was MENTAL ATTITUDE SIN and it is the worst sin.
- "I will" - Jesus Christ is speaking

v18 - "a fire" - the beginning of the fire in hell. God is starting it with the devil.

v19 - "any more" - the end of Satan/the devil. It's all over. He will be in the lake of fire forever.

TURN TO ISAIAH 14:12

v12 - "art thou fallen" - God is going to throw Satan down, why? How?

- "Lucifer" - notice God calls his name. It means the bright one, the shining one.
- "weaken the nations" - the devil weakens the nations, think of the many nations he has taken over, why? To make them great nations? NO, to weaken them. He wants to weaken our own country and is doing a good job of it so far, America is not the Godly nation it once was.

v13 - "heart" - mind, MENTAL ATTITUDE

- "will ascend" - going to climb up where God is
- "stars of God" - the angels God created
- "sides of the North" - He wants to take over all things.
- "above the heights" - He wants to be greater than mankind.

- "be like" - He wants to take God's place.

NOW, THAT'S WHY God is going to defeat Satan and now you can better understand Revelation Chapter 12.

Remember as we start chapter 12 that the devil has a strategy. Here is a brief outline of his strategy:

1. In dealing with believers, he is accusing them before God, remember Job? The devil is accusing you and me before God continuously.
2. The devil gets believers to ignore the Word of God. Anytime you ignore your bible, you're doing EXACTLY what the devil wants you to do. He wants you to say it isn't important to read God's Word. The devil wants to replace God in our own country and he is doing a good job at it. Removal of the Commandments from court houses, removal of God's Word from schools, non christian government, just to mention a few things that have changed recently.

What we are doing right now is the most important thing we can do and that is taking God's Word verse by verse, line by line, word by word. If the rest of our pastors would do the same thing with their congregations, we could turn the world upside down. ONLY THE WORD OF GOD will do it. Satan wants us to ignore God's Word.

Satan started with Adam and Eve in the garden getting people to disregard/disbelieve God's Word and has gone through the ages up to our time with the same plan - discredit God's Word, listen to him instead.

3. He wants believers to worry. If you are a constant worrier, you're playing right into his hand for he wants us to worry. God says, "fear not for I am with thee..", etc. Over and over again and again, God says He'll care for us, if we'll only let Him. 1 Peter 5:9 tells us how Satan wants us to worry.
4. He doesn't want believers to believe in the promises of the Bible. He wants to distort the scripture. Remember Jesus and His temptations? Satan misquoted scripture - he always will. He tries to get our eyes off Jesus Christ.
5. He wants to deceive the whole world into thinking that God is not needed.

Satan's strategy with unbelievers is to blind their eyes. 2 Corinthians 4:3 READ then turn to Revelation 12.

## Chapter 12

v1 - "appeared" - aorist tense meaning exactly at the right time, not late, not early.

- "wonder" - sign
- "woman" - Israel. How do we know? The rest of the scripture (Jewish nation)
- "clothed" - perfect tense - here is a nation "covered", clothed with the promise of God made with Abraham. The Jews are here to stay forever for they are God's people and always will be and they can't be killed off because they are "clothed" - protected, covered by God's hand.
- "sun" - Jacob
- "moon" - wives of Jacob (Rachel, Leah) - Genesis 37:9
- "twelve stars" - The 12 patriarchs, or the 12 sons of Jacob. How do we know all this? Remember the bible always proves itself. In Genesis 37 Joseph had two dreams - the sun bowed down to him and the moon bowed down to him and the 12 stars bowed down to him. Nobody knew what that meant but later he found out. Unknown to his family as governor of Egypt, they bowed down to him. The sun stood for his father Jacob, the moon for his mother, the stars were his brothers. Isn't this clear now? This is a Jewish scene. THE JEWISH RACE IS PICTURED HERE.

v2 - "she" - the Jewish nation (Mary in particular)

- "pained" - remember the Christmas story (describe) - they had to travel, no place to stay, born in a stable, Herod tried to kill the baby - THIS IS PAINED.

v3 - "wonder" - sign

- "great red dragon" - This is where the world gets the idea that the devil wears a red suit, has horns, a tail and carries a pitch fork. The Greek word here is "DRAKON" - "Drakon" is a sea beast (Dirkomai), which means "to see clearly, better judgment, etc.."

- "seven heads" - Seven nations are going to defeat and rule Israel through history: Egypt, Assyria, Chaldea, Medio Persian Empire, Greek/Macedonian Empire, Rome and number seven is yet to be revived, the Roman Empire.
- "ten horns" - The ten nations of the revived Roman Empire. If the United States of America is in this prophecy, it is right here as one of the ten nations. By the second coming of Jesus, the USA will be "in bondage" to and with Europe. Our leaders listen to what Europe has to say before making any decisions. We don't make up our own minds without first consulting the rest of the world.
- "seven crowns" - leaders - of the ten nations three will desolve and seven will be left when Jesus Christ returns.

v4 - What is the devil going to be doing?

- "third part" - one third (1/3) of the angels
- "stars" - the angels. When the devil fell, he persuaded one third of all the angels to follow him. They are demons, the fallen angels, the ones who mess up your life everyday.
- "dragon stood" - imperfect tense, has been standing, throughout all the centuries. From the Garden of Eden to the present time. The devil took out after Jesus Christ to destroy Him. HERE IS A PICTURE FOR US TO SEE.
- "woman" - Mary (Israel)
- "delivered" - Satan stood ready to destroy the baby as soon as he was born.

v5 - "brought forth" - Satan failed, Jesus Christ was born.

- "rod of iron" - Jesus will ultimately defeat the devil and will rule the world.
- "caught up" - this passage doesn't mention all the life of Jesus Christ, but it does mention His ascension.

IN BETWEEN verses 5 and 6, we jump over the Church age, it isn't mentioned here, things are not in chronological order, remember in v6 we are in the Tribulation.

v6 - "woman" - The Jewish nation during the Tribulation.

- "fled" - in the Tribulation, the Jews are going to the mountains, Amon, Moab, Ammon and they will be saved there. Millions will turn to Jesus Christ. Did Jesus foretell that the Jews would flee to the mountains during the Tribulation? Yes He did - READ Matthew 24:13 - A Prophecy by Jesus.

MATTHEW 24:13

- "endure to the end" - NOW GET THIS - this is not talking about some professing Christian trying to keep saved until Jesus comes back..this is talking about during the Tribulation period, about the Jews.

- v15 - "abomination of desolation" - This is the statue of the ruler of the revived Roman Empire. Everyone is to bow to this image (Daniel 9:7; 12:11) - DESCRIBE THE IMAGE.

v16 - The same scene described in Revelation 12

v19 - "with child" - will be hard to travel then, especially if pregnant

v20 - "not in winter" - again, hard to travel

v21 - "great tribulation" - again the mention of the last half of the Tribulation. The most terrible time on the earth will be the last three and one half years of the seven years of Tribulation. The devil is going to be doing his best during the Tribulation to defeat the whole world. Right when the devil thinks he has almost won, the sky will part and Jesus Christ will return. That's why Jesus gave us the second coming before this - so we'd know in advance that the devil is not going to win. There are few

battles where it is known who is going to win beforehand.

Jesus Christ is going to win the battle and that's where we'll pick up next time.

The devil thinks that he is going to defeat Jesus Christ.

Stay with us in this study, you'll be much richer in the knowledge of the Word of God and the last days.