Revelation Chapter 12

The Devil’s Attacks

Chapter key:

The dragon = the Devil/Satan

The woman = Mary/the Church

The child = Jesus Christ

The wilderness = the church on earth before Christ’s return.

1. **The Great Sign in Heaven: vv1,2**
   1. Signs
      1. In the Bible, signs are a visible portrayal of the divine.
      2. John’s Gospel
         1. Jesus performs seven signs which clearly show that He is God.
   2. A woman clothed with the sun
      1. She is in God’s glorious presence.
         1. You may recall that in Rev. 1:16 that Jesus face shone like the sun.
   3. The moon under her feet
      1. She has dominion and authority
   4. Crown of twelve stars
      1. 12 Tribes/12 Apostles
         1. Represent the people of God.
   5. Identity of the “woman”
      1. Mary is certainly the model of this woman in chapter 12.
         1. Her confession in Luke 1:38
      2. This woman also represents the entire church.
2. **Another sign: vv3,4a**
   1. Destruction and deception
      1. Red is the color for murder and bloodshed.
      2. 7 is God’s number signifying His presence through the Holy Spirit.
         1. The 7 heads of the dragon is his descriptive way of claiming rule and authority.
            1. The 7 diadems (crowns)
            2. The 10 horns

Claims to have supreme earthly power.

1. **The dragon and the child: vv 4b-6**
   1. The male child
      1. This is the focus of the dragon’s warfare against God.
   2. “One who rules all the nations with a rod of iron”
      1. Psalm 2 speaks of Jesus’s reign
      2. The iron rod is Jesus’s future reign revealed in power and glory.
         1. All opposition at this point is shattered.
   3. “1,260 days”
      1. This time frame signifies the length of time the church will be in exile while here on earth.
2. **The war in heaven: vv 7-9**
   1. What does the devil really want to do?
      1. He wants his position in heaven before God to accuse you of your sin.
   2. The reason for the war
      1. Since Jesus has ascended and is seated on the right hand of God, the Devil can no longer accuse God’s saints.
         1. There’s not enough room for two opposing advocates.
3. **The song of victory: vv 10-12a**
   1. There’s power in the blood.
      1. The blood of the Lamb covers all of our sins and removes our guilt.
   2. “by the word of their testimony”
      1. Romans 10:8-10
4. **The dragon and the woman on earth: vv 12b-17**
   1. The time is short
      1. The devil knows this and works extra hard.
      2. While God does protect and care for His people, the serpent can still cause much suffering and pain.
         1. The Devil’s ultimate goal is to corrupt your faith.