

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

Chapter 12 begins the second half of the Book of Revelation but it likewise opens the second half of the Tribulation – or more specifically, the 'Great Tribulation', that final 3-1/2 year period before Christ once again returns to Earth to rule and reign from Jerusalem. The visions in this chapter really go all the way back to the beginning of human history and the beginning of the cosmic warfare between Satan and his forces and God's and His sovereign plan for humanity. .

**Chapters 1-3** – detail the present development of the church in its various forms throughout the 'Church Age'.

**Chapters 4-11** – these detail events throughout the entire 7-year tribulation and conclude with the return of Christ to reign in Revelation 11:15-18. The opening of the 'Seals' reflect the first 3-1/2 years. The 'Trumpets' reflect the Great Tribulation or last 3-1/2 years.

**Chapters 12-19** – As was described two lessons ago, Revelation 10:11 is the Holy Spirit's instruction to John to not describe the 7-year tribulation a SECOND TIME.

10:11 – And they said to me, “You must prophesy **again** concerning many peoples and nations and tongues and kings.”

“**again**”: John (thru the Holy Spirit) has outlined the events of the first half of the tribulation period under the seals (ch. 4:1 – 7:17), the last half of the Tribulation under the Trumpets (8:1 – 11:14) and closes the Tribulation with the return of the Lord to triumph over evil and to reign on the Earth (11:15-18).

Between the sixth and seventh Trumpets John is told (10:11) he must prophesy “again”. The original Greek denotes a “renewal or repetition of action”. ***In other words, John took his readers through the entire period once and now its God's intention to have John retrace his way through it again. This time, beginning in chapter 12, he focuses on individuals who play a key role in the events of the time of Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> Week.*** With this chronology in mind, the final Bowl judgments of chapter 16 come rapid-fire all at the end of the Tribulation and terminate with the coming of Christ in Chapter 19.

---

**Point of chapter 12** – History of the cosmic, spiritual warfare that has gone on since the Garden of Eden. **Genesis 3:15** – God declares war on Satan. God reveals that the Messiah/redeemer would come through the woman. Ever since that point Satan has attempted to destroy God's covenant people Israel because he never knew which one would be that Savior. Remember, Satan is not omniscient. He only knows what God has revealed in His Word. He doesn't know all things like God does.

**God's supernatural protection over Israel** (Psalm 31:20, Psalm 90:1, Psalm 91:1, Psalm 91:9-

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

16; Proverbs 18:10; Isa. 4:5, Isa. 8:14; Jer. 26:7, Jer. 26:11; Jer. 42:11  
Delivered from Pharaoh's army in Red Sea  
Gog/Magog wiped out on the mountains of Judea  
Earth swallows Satan's 'flood' in wilderness of Petra (Rev. 12:16)

**Four (4) things in scripture of which Paul does not want believers ignorant**

- 1) ***God's plan for Israel*** (Romans chapters 9-11)
- 2) The spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:1)
- 3) Affliction (2 Corinthians 1:8)
- 4) The Coming of the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:13)

**Four (4) Women in Revelation** (two good, two bad)

- 1) Jezebel (2:20)
- 2) The Harlot (chps. 17 & 18)
- 3) Israel (Revelation 12; Jer. 3:20; Gen. 37)
- 4) The Bride (Rev. 19:7; 21:2, 9)

---

Revelation 11:19 really belongs at the beginning of this chapter. It is the opening thought revealing the Ark of the Covenant in heaven as the sign of God's unending grace toward Israel. (The context of chapter 12, then, is God dealing with Israel.)

Revelation 11:19 – “And the temple of God which is in heaven was opened; and the ark of His covenant appeared in His temple, and there were flashes of lightning and sounds and peals of thunder, and an earthquake, and a great hailstorm.”

It's important to note that the judgments of the Tribulation issue from the throne of God in heaven. Here we have another picture, the temple of God and specifically, the Ark of the Covenant. The source of God's judgment is also His source of mercy and both of these can only be understood through the cross of Jesus.

Everything in the earthly tabernacle and later the temple were fashioned after the pattern of the things in the heavens (Hebrews 9:23). The Mercy Seat which sat above the Ark of the Covenant was the place where God Himself dwelt among His people (Exodus 25:18-22; 1 Samuel 4:4).

The Ark itself was made of wood (Acacia) but then overlaid with pure gold. Acacia was hard wood that would not rot or decay. This represents Christ's humanity. The gold represents

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

Christ's deity – fully man and fully God.

The ark was placed in the holy of holies in the completed tabernacle because God begins from Himself, working outward toward man. The worshiper begins from himself moving toward God in the holy of holies.

The High Priest could only enter the Holy of Holies once a year – the Day of Atonement – at which time he would sprinkle the blood on the Mercy Seat (Lev. 16:14-15; Hebrews 9:12, 24-26). If you did not approach God's throne in His appointed way you would die. The same holds true for us as believer's today, “No man cometh unto the Father but by me” (John 14:6). There will be future woe and eternal punishment for the religious person who thinks they can approach God based upon their own efforts rather than y the blood of Jesus Christ alone – nothing added!

There is another purpose behind the Holy Spirit here presenting God's throne through the symbolism of the Ark of the Covenant. It is a picture that reminds us of God's relationship with Israel. Remember, the church is not pictured on Earth after chapter 3 – she is always pictured in heaven. He uses the symbolism of His relationship to earthly Israel and then proceeds in the chapter to discuss the cosmic warfare between Satan and Israel.

**Rev. 12:1-2 – The Woman (If this is the church then she's pregnant – can't be the virgin bride of Christ)**

12:1-2 – 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; and she was pregnant and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

How you interpret these initial verses reveal your entire eschatology. Four out five commentaries identify 'The Woman' as 'The Church'. I have listed all the mainline denominations at the end of these notes who believe the church has replaced Israel as heir to her covenant promises.

John's use of the word “sign” in verses 1 and 3 lets us know that the immediate vision is symbolic rather than literal. And all of the symbols used in these verses are found in the earliest chapters of Genesis.

According to Revelation 12, the object of Satanic attack during the Tribulation is 'The Woman' who produces the 'Male Child'. This child is said to be destined to 'rule all the nations with a rod of iron' (12:5; 19:15). This 'male child', therefore, can only refer to Christ (Psalm 2:9). The church did not bring forth Christ, Christ produced the church. The Messiah was physically

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

brought forth from Israel and the house and lineage of King David, the tribe of Judah (Rom. 1:3; 9:5; 2 Tim. 2:8; Rev. 22:16).

**Joseph's dream:** Gen. 37:7-9 – the key is verse 10: Jacob (who becomes Israel) interprets the dream. The woman is Israel.

Gen. 37:7-9 – Then he had yet another dream, and informed his brothers of it, and said, “Behold, I have had yet another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon, and eleven stars were bowing down to me.” 10 He also told it to his father as well as to his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have had? Am I and your mother and your brothers actually going to come to bow down to the ground before you?” 11 And his brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Jacob himself interprets the symbolism to be that of Israel.

Israel described as a woman in travail: Isaiah 54-5, 66:7; Jer. 3:6; Micah 4:10; 5:2-3  
gives birth to the man-child: Gen. 3:15; Micah 5:2-5; Gal. 3:16, 4:4; Rev. 12:5.  
the woman is Israel/not the church: Micah 5:2; Isaiah 9:6

**Sun, moon, stars:** used in reference to Israel: Jer. 31:35-36; Josh. 10:12-14; Judges 5:20; Ps. 89:35-37)

**Number 12:** Used in scripture representing governmental authority. It has always been God's plan that Israel be His instrument to mediate government in the world (beginning with the giving of the law and concluding the the New Jerusalem).

**Woman:** 16 times in this chapter either 'woman', 'she' or 'her' used. 'Woman' frequently used in O.T. To describe Israel (Isaiah 47:7-9; 54:5-6; Jer. 4:31; Micah 4:9-10; 5:3; Is. 66:7-8). The church is referred to as a 'bride' or 'chase virgin' but never as a 'woman'.

Rev. 12:3-4: Then another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven crowns. And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and hurled 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.

**Great:** Satan is not equal with God but he is very powerful. While he is a created being and is limited under God's sovereign control, even the Archangel Michael treats him carefully (Jude 1:9). We would do well to also be careful.

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

**Red:** There are many Greek words which describe various shades of red but the word used here is only used one other place, in 6:4 to describe the red horse. It comes from the Greek root word for 'fire' but what we are picturing here is the one who brings death. Satan is a murderer from the beginning (John 8:44).

**Great Red Dragon** (see vs. 9 – the Devil, Satan)

'devil': (Gr.) slanderer (Job 1:9-11; 2:5; Zechariah 3:1)

'Satan': (Heb.) adversary

“**seven heads**” - refers to 7 'kings' (prior world empires):

1. Egypt – held Israel captive 400 years (Egypt referred to as the Great Dragon – Ezek. 29:3)
2. Assyria – took Northern 10 tribes captive in 722 B.C.
3. Babylon – took Southern Kingdom (Judah/Benjamin) captive. Destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in 586 B.C. (Jer. 51:34 – Nebuchadnezzar as a Dragon)
4. Medo-Persia – Haman (the Agagite [Amalakites]- tries to exterminate the Jews (Esther)
5. Greece – Antiochus Epiphanies in 167 B.C.
6. Rome – Destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple in 70 A.D.
7. Revived Rome – Daniel 7:7-8; Revelation 13: 1; 17:9-13

### **swept away a third**

Satan, originally named 'Lucifer', led one-third of the holy angels in rebellion against God. These events are detailed in Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:16-17. Long before John was ever instructed to record Jesus' Revelation he literally walked with Him throughout Judea, Samaria and Galilee. On the occasion Jesus sent out the disciples two by two and they exhibited great power in the Holy Spirit the disciples returned to Jesus and He proclaimed in **Luke 10:18**, “I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.”

### **Devour the child when born**

Satan thought he had achieved a great victory when he led Adam and Eve into rebellion in the Garden. On the heels of that original sin, however, came God's pronouncement of the Messiah who would come from the woman and redeem all creation from that sin curse (Gen. 3:15). That is what Revelation chapter 12 is detailing.

Satan has always hated and tried to destroy God's nation of Israel because they were chosen to bring forth the Messiah but also to be a channel of blessing to the world.

Some specific examples of Satan's efforts to destroy the seed of the woman include,

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

Satan prompting Cain to kill Abel  
Pharaoh's attempt to kill all male children in Egypt  
King Saul's (tribe of Benjamin) efforts to kill David (tribe of Judah)  
2 Kings 11:1-3 – Only one child in the royal bloodline was left alive  
Herod kills all male children 2-years old and under  
Holocaust in Nazi Germany (1930's-45) 1/3 of all Jews killed  
In tribulation 2/3 of all Jews will be killed (Zechariah 13:8-9)

**Rev. 12:5-6 – The Male Child**

12:5-6 – And she gave birth to a Son, a male, who is going to rule all the nations with a rod of iron; and her Child was caught up to God and to His throne. Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for 1,260 days.

“rule with rod of iron”: Rev. 2:27; 19:15; Psalm 2:9-10

**iron**: unbending, unyielding, no compromise

**Millennial Kingdom**: the one-thousand year period where Jesus Himself rules the Earth in perfect justice and righteousness.

**Isaiah 9:7** – There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, **On the throne of David and over his kingdom**, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.

See also Luke 1:32-33; 1Cor 15:24-28; Dan 2:35, Dan 2:44; Dan 7:14, Dan 7:27; 2Sa 7:16; Psa 2:8, Psa 72:8-11, Psa 89:35-37; Jer 33:15-21

Jesus has never literally took the throne of David to rule and reign. Today, Jesus is seated ON HIS FATHER'S THRONE in heaven. Most mainline denominations do not take these verses literally. They believe Jesus is ruling today through His church. Things are increasingly getting better and better. Satan is bound as he cannot overcome the church.

Amillennialism is the name given to the belief that there will not be a literal 1,000-year reign of Christ. The people who hold to this belief are called amillennialists. The prefix “a-” in amillennialism means “no” or “not.” Hence, “amillennialism” means “no millennium.” This differs from the most widely accepted view called premillennialism (the view that Christ’s second coming will occur prior to His millennial kingdom and that the millennial kingdom is a literal 1,000-year reign) and from the less-widely accepted view called postmillennialism (the

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

belief that Christ will return after Christians, not Christ Himself, have established the kingdom on this earth).

However, in fairness to amillennialists, they do not believe that there is no millennium at all. They just do not believe in a literal millennium—a literal 1,000-year reign of Christ on earth. Instead, they believe that Christ is now sitting on the throne of David and that this present church age is the kingdom over which Christ reigns. There is no doubt that Christ is now sitting on a throne, but this does not mean that it is what the Bible refers to as the throne of David. There is no doubt that Christ now rules, for He is God. Yet this does not mean He is ruling over the millennial kingdom.

In order for God to keep His promises to Israel and His covenant with David (2 Samuel 7:8-16, 23:5; Psalm 89:3-4), there must be a literal, physical kingdom on this earth. To doubt this is to call into question God's desire and/or ability to keep His promises, and this opens up a host of other theological problems. For example, if God would renege on His promises to Israel after proclaiming those promises to be "everlasting," how could we be sure of anything He promises, including the promises of salvation to believers in the Lord Jesus? The only solution is to take Him at His word and understand that His promises will be literally fulfilled.

Clear biblical indications that the kingdom will be a literal, earthly kingdom are:

- 1) Christ's feet will actually touch the Mount of Olives prior to the establishment of His kingdom (Zechariah 14:4, 9);
- 2) During the kingdom, the Messiah will execute justice and judgment on the earth (Jeremiah 23:5-8);
- 3) The kingdom is described as being under heaven (Daniel 7:13-14, 27);
- 4) The prophets foretold of dramatic earthly changes during the kingdom (Acts 3:21; Isaiah 35:1-2, 11:6-9, 29:18, 65:20-22; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Amos 9:11-15); and
- 5) The chronological order of events in Revelation indicates the existence of an earthly kingdom prior to the conclusion of world history (Revelation 20).

The amillennial view comes from using one method of interpretation for unfulfilled prophecy and another method for non-prophetic Scripture and fulfilled prophecy. Non-prophetic Scripture and fulfilled prophecy are interpreted literally or normally. But, according to the amillennialist, unfulfilled prophecy is to be interpreted spiritually, or non-literally. Those who hold to amillennialism believe that a "spiritual" reading of unfulfilled prophecy is the normal reading of the texts. This is called using a dual hermeneutic. (Hermeneutics is the study of the principles of interpretation.) The amillennialist assumes that most, or all, unfulfilled prophecy

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

is written in symbolic, figurative, spiritual language. Therefore, the amillennialist will assign different meanings to those parts of Scripture instead of the normal, contextual meanings of those words.

The problem with interpreting unfulfilled prophecy in this manner is that this allows for a wide range of meanings. Unless you interpret Scripture in the normal sense, there will not be one meaning. Yet God, the ultimate author of all of Scripture, did have one specific meaning in mind when He inspired the human authors to write. Though there may be many life ***applications*** in a passage of Scripture, there is ***only one meaning***, and that meaning is what God intended it to mean. Also, the fact that fulfilled prophecy was fulfilled literally is the best reason of all for assuming that unfulfilled prophecy will also be literally fulfilled. The prophecies concerning Christ's first coming were all fulfilled literally. Therefore, prophecies concerning Christ's second coming should also be expected to be fulfilled literally. For these reasons, an allegorical interpretation of unfulfilled prophecy should be rejected and a literal or normal interpretation of unfulfilled prophecy should be adopted. Amillennialism fails in that it uses inconsistent hermeneutics, namely, interpreting unfulfilled prophecy differently from fulfilled prophecy.

Genesis 3:15 – spiritual war declared

Isaiah 9:6 – child born, son given

her Child was caught up to God and to His throne

Mark 22:27 – So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.

Acts 3:20-21 – Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive ***until the period of restoration of all things***, about which God spoke by the mouths of His holy prophets from ancient times.

Rev. 12:7-9 – Michael and his angels

And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, and they did not prevail, and there was **no longer a place found for them in heaven**. 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 Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

Michael: (chief princes – Dan. 10:13; Archangel – Jude 1:9; 1 Thess. 4:16; Prince of Israel – Dan. 10:21)

Satan is the present 'ruler of this world (Eph. 2:2), the ruler of the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12)

no longer a place found for them in heaven

Currently has to present himself to God before the Holy angels to give an account of himself (Job chapters 1 & 2; Zechariah 3). As he does so, however, Satan takes every opportunity to accuse you and I before our Lord and God.

Verse 9 is the middle verse of Revelation and this also marks the mid-point of the Tribulation. The rapture of God's two witnesses has occurred, Antichrist breaks his peace covenant with Israel and sets up his image in the Holy of Holies in the temple, Israel must flee Judea and head for the wilderness, and now the casting of Satan from his access to heaven once and for all time.

who deceives the whole world

1 Timothy 4:1 – tells us that in the 'last days' there will be doctrines of demons. In fact, there have been demonic lies and falsehoods told since the Garden of Eden. All the world's highest sounding philosophies and religions have their roots in the deceptive "angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:14-15). All are man-centered, man-honoring and they seek to persuade man that this physical universe is the only eternal absolute – not a Creator God. That is also why Satan works so hard to get mankind to question, doubt, change or allegorize God's Word – the only real source of truth.

**Rev. 12: 10-12** – 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. 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. For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them (as opposed to the Earth-dwellers). 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.”

Just as certain names, titles and allusions are used throughout scripture consistently, such is the case here with the term 'woe'. We are familiar with the three “woes” which are also the same as the last three of the 7 'Trumpet judgments'.

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

1<sup>st</sup> Woe: Rev. 9:1-12

2<sup>nd</sup> Woe: Rev. 9:13-21

3<sup>rd</sup> Woe: Rev. 11:14

Satan knows his time is short and that he no longer has “access” to heaven. All that is left for him to do is vent all his wrath directly upon the Earth.

Rev. 12:13 – And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male *Child*.

The church must not be present on the Earth for since it is the “bride” and “Body” of Christ we are precious to Him and because we are precious to Him we have been the brunt of Satanic attack since Pentecost (Ephesians 6:12). Yet we are not described as being under attack here – Israel is under attack. This can only be explained by the absence of the church in the tribulation.

As has been contended numerous times throughout this Revelation study, the church is removed from the Earth PRIOR to the beginning of the 7-year tribulation on the Earth. The case has been made numerous ways previously, some of which are,

The message to the church at Laodicea: the true church could not go through the persecutions of the tribulation and still remain lukewarm. They either fan the flames or extinguish them. No, this is the professing church but not born again. This is the church vomited out (rejected) of the Lord. The true church concludes with the church at Philadelphia which is removed from the Earth prior to the Tribulation as indicated in Rev. 3:10.

In the new testament, the true church is instructed to pray for and submit to human governmental authorities. According to Revelation 13:4 the government during the seventieth week is controlled by Satan himself. The church must be removed prior to it's rise because God would not instruct His church to submit to a Satanic kingdom.

The complete apostacy of the professing church during the tribulation also means the true church cannot be in the world at that time. The only organized church ever mentioned in the tribulation period is the Jezebel system (Rev. 2:22) and the Great Harlot (Rev. 17 & 18).

**The Biblical promises to the true church:**

Rev. 3:10 – Because you have kept My word of perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of the testing, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

live on the earth.

1 Thess. 5:9 – For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

1 Thess. 1:9-10 – and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, *that is*, Jesus who rescues us from the wrath to come.

**Rev. 12:14-17** – 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. 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. 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. (tribulation converts)

O.T Allusions to Israel and the Eagle

Ex. 19:4 – God delivered Israel from Egypt on Eagles wings

Deut. 32:11-12 – cared for Israel in wilderness as Eagle cares for her young

Isaiah 40:31 – Israel's return from Babylonian captivity was as mounting up on Eagles wings

fly into the wilderness

Matthew 24:15-16 – “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place—let the reader understand— then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

Ezekiel 20:33-36 – “As I live,” declares the Lord God, “surely with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out, I shall be king over you. I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you from the lands where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and with an outstretched arm and with wrath poured out; and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgment with you face to face.

her place: Petra/Sela/Bozrah/Valley of Arnon/the wilderness: Rev. 12:5-6

Isaiah 16:1-5 – Send the tribute lamb to the ruler of the land, From Sela by way of the wilderness to the mountain of the daughter of Zion. 2 Then, like fluttering birds or scattered nestlings, The daughters of Moab will be at the crossing places of the Arnon [the border of

## Revelation Chapter 12 Spiritual Warfare

Moab/modern Jordan]. 3 “Give us advice, make a decision; Cast your shadow like night at high noon; Hide the outcasts, do not betray the fugitive. 4 Let the outcasts of Moab stay with you; Be a hiding place to them from the destroyer.” For the oppressor has come to an end, destruction has ceased, Oppressors have been removed from the land. 5 A throne will be (future tense) established in faithfulness, And a judge will sit on it in trustworthiness in the tent of David; Moreover, he will seek justice, And be prompt in righteousness. (Millennial reign of Christ)

**Isaiah 26:20-21** – Come, my people, enter into your rooms And close your doors behind you; Hide for a little while Until indignation runs its course. For behold, the LORD is about to come out from His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth (earth-dwellers) for their iniquity; And the earth will reveal her bloodshed And will no longer cover her slain.

**Isaiah 63:1** – Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the greatness of His strength? “It is I, the One who speaks in righteousness, mighty to save.”

Isaiah used Edom (Is. 34:5-17) as an example of God's judgment against the world. The Edomites were descendants of Esau, Jacob's older brother. Their father Isaac told Esau he would live in an infertile land (Gen. 27:39-40). Despite being near kinsmen, Edom became a perpetual enemy of Israel and because of that she became an example of what God will do to the nations that fight against His people. (Christ returns and gathers His remnant from Petra).

**Daniel 11:41** – He (Antichrist) will also enter the Beautiful Land (Israel), and many countries will fall; but these will be rescued out of his hand: Edom, Moab, and the foremost of the sons of Ammon. (Why these insignificant places?) Modern day Jordan – ancient Petra

**Hosea 2:14-16** – “Therefore, behold, I am going to persuade her, Bring her into the wilderness, And speak kindly to her. 15 Then I will give her her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor [lit. 'valley of trouble', the site of Achan's sin after conquering Jericho] as a door of hope. And she will respond there as in the days of her youth, As in the day when she went up from the land of Egypt. 16 And it will come about on that day,” declares the LORD, “That you will call Me my husband [heb. 'ishi'] And no longer call Me my Baal [heb. Ba' ali' – master].

### **Biblical terms all referring to 'Petra'**

**Sela** (Hebrew: סֶלַע, meaning rock; Arabic: السَّلْع, es-Sela'; Greek: πέτρα, 'Petra'.  
When used with the article it translates to "the rock"

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

Petra

Petra is a famous archaeological site in Jordan's southwestern desert located about 125 miles south of the capital city of Amman. Dating to around 300 B.C., it was the capital of the Nabatean Kingdom. Accessed via a narrow canyon called Al Siq, it contains tombs and temples. The city was built on a terrace, pierced from east to west by the Wadi Mūsā (the Valley of Moses)—one of the places where the Israelite leader Moses struck a rock and water gushed forth. The valley is enclosed by sandstone cliffs veined with shades of red and purple varying to pale yellow, and for this reason Petra was called the “rose city half as old as Time.” Perhaps its most famous structure is 150 foot-high Al Khazneh, a temple with an ornate, Greek-style facade, and known as The Treasury. The walk from the entrance of Petra to the Treasury just over one mile.

a time and times and half a time

Revelation chapters 10-14 describe event that take place during the mid-point of the 7-year Tribulation. One indication of this is John repeatedly mentioning a 3-1/2 year segment of time. Remember, the Hebrew prophetic calendar operated on 360 day years.

11:2-3 – 42 Months

12:6 – twelve-hundred and sixty days

12:14 – a 'time', 'times', 'and 'half a time'

13:5 – 42 months

The total tribulation is 7-years

The 'Great Tribulation' is the final 3-1/2 years (Matthew 24:21-22; Jer. 30:7; Daniel 12:1,7), also referred to as 'The Time of Jacob's Trouble'

serpent poured water like a river

see Psalm 124 with Rev. 17:15 (Satan stirs up all the nations against Israel at the mid-point)

Exodus 15:12 – the Red Sea (swallows Israel's enemies)

Isaiah 59:19 – So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west

And His glory from the rising of the sun,  
For He will come like a rushing stream  
Which the wind of the LORD drives.

Numbers 16:30 – Korah, Dathan, Abiram (Earth swallowed them alive)

Revelation Chapter 12  
Spiritual Warfare

the rest of her children : tribulation coverts who respond to the 144,000 and the 2 witnesses

### Replacement Theology

Definition:

Replacement theology (also known as supersessionism) essentially teaches that the church has replaced Israel in God's plan. Those who hold to this doctrine believe the Jews are no longer God's chosen people, and God does not have specific future plans for the nation of Israel.

Three views:

- (1) The church has replaced Israel (replacement theology)
- (2) The church is an expansion of Israel (covenant theology).
- (3) The church is completely different and distinct from Israel (dispensationalism/premillennialism).

Biblically speaking, the church is distinct from Israel, and the terms church and Israel are never to be confused or used interchangeably. We are taught from Scripture that the church is an entirely new creation that came into being on the day of Pentecost and will continue until it is taken to heaven at the rapture (Ephesians 1:9–11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–17). The church has no relationship to the curses and blessings for Israel. The covenants, promises, and warnings of the Mosaic Covenant were valid only for Israel. Israel has been temporarily set aside in God's program during these past 2,000 years of dispersion (see Romans 11).

Contrary to replacement theology, dispensationalism teaches that, after the rapture (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18), God will restore Israel as the primary focus of His plan. The first event at this time is the tribulation (Revelation chapters 6–19). The world will be judged for rejecting Christ, while Israel is prepared through the trials of the great tribulation for the second coming of the Messiah. Then, when Christ does return to the earth at the end of the tribulation, Israel will be ready to receive Him. The remnant of Israel who survive the tribulation will be saved, and the Lord will establish His kingdom on this earth with Jerusalem as its capital. With Christ reigning as King, Israel will be the leading nation, and representatives from all nations will come to Jerusalem to honor and worship the King—Jesus Christ. The church will return with Christ and will reign with Him for a literal thousand years (Revelation 20:1–5).