

Rev 12: Dragon Persecutes the Church

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The entire conflict between Christ and His followers and Satan and his agents is outlined in this chapter.

Rev 12:1,2 A woman with child stands clothed with light.

Jer 6:2; 2 Cor 11:2 A symbolic woman represents a church. This is the pure church of Christ.

John 8:12; 2 Cor 4:4 The church has the Light of Christ, or the gospel for the world.

Isa 53:5-8 The age before the cross (the moon age) had the gospel in prophecy or in shadows and types.

Acts 3:14 -19 After the cross the Sunlight age has the gospel in history also. The moon age was passing out of the birth of this child and so the moon was under her feet.

Rev 1:20 Stars represent angels or messengers. 12 stars are 12 tribes before, and 12 apostles after the cross.

Rev 12:3 Red dragon with 7 heads and 10 horns, has crowns upon his heads, denoting imperial power.

Rev 17:3,9,10.12; Jer 51:24.25 The 7 heads represent 7 kingdoms which persecuted the true church. The 10 Horns were 10 kingdoms not then in existence.

Eze 29:3 Egypt is called a dragon and was the first nation to oppress the church of Christ.

Jer 50:17; 51:34 Assyria and Babylon are called lions and dragons who devoured God's people.

2 Kings 17: 23 Assyria took 10 tribes captive.

Jer 52:26.27 Babylon took Judah or other 2 tribes.

1 st head is Egypt

2nd head is Assyria

3rd head is Babylon

4th head is Medo-Persia

5th head is Grecia

6th head is Pagan Rome

7th head is Papal Rome

All of these powers in turn oppressed the true people of God, so this dragon is Satan's agent.

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Rev 12:4,9 Satan, the real dragon, drew 1/3 of the angels with him and he, through his agents, tried to devour the child as soon as He was born.

Matt 2:16 Herod, pagan Roman Ruler, tried to put Christ to death at His birth. This identifies the dragon of Rev 12 as Pagan Rome, the dragon in his 6th head phase.

Rev 12:5; Ps 2:7-9; Acts 2:23,33 Christ is the child who was caught up to God's throne and will rule all nations with a rod of iron.

Rev 12:7-10 We are reminded that this warfare between Christ and Satan really began in heaven.

Rev 12:11-14 After Christ conquered Satan at the cross and was caught up, victorious, to the throne, Satan, desperate, attacked the church in great wrath. The church fled to the wilderness for protection for a time (1 year), times (2 years), and 1/2 time (1/2 year) or 3 1/2 years. A Jewish year averaged 360 days. 3 1/2 years are 1260 days or 1260 years, the same period mentioned in verse 6.

Rev 12:15,16 God provided help which swallowed up the flood of persecution before the church was destroyed.

Rev 12: 17 The persecution will be renewed against the remnant church, identified as keeping the commandments of God. This church is a remnant of the one that gave birth to Christ. The SAME WOMAN had the light for the world in all ages. The light was brighter after the cross but it was the same woman or church and the same light.

Heb 13:8 Jesus is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Since He is the light, the light or truth cannot change except in degree of brightness.