

Cultural, Historic, and Geographic Context



Revelation Backgrounds 21

The Dragon Selected Cross-references

Revelation 12



1

Acts 17:11 (KJV)

These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Unless otherwise noted, all biblical passages referenced are from the Complete Jewish Bible by David H. Stern. (Clarksville, MD: Messianic Jewish Publishers, 1998).



2

Revelation 12

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days. Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.



3

And 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 brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!” And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness, to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time.



4

The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood. But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth. Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. *And he stood on the sand of the sea.*



5

Inverted Parallel Structure - Chiasm

A. 3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold **a great red dragon**, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: **and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.**

B. 5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. **6 And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.**

C. 7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. **9 And the great dragon was cast out**, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: **he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.**

C'. Woe to the inhabitants of **the earth** and of the sea! **for the devil is come down unto you**, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. **13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth**, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

B'. **14 And to the woman** were given two wings of a great eagle, **that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.**

A'. **15 And the serpent** cast out of his mouth water as a flood after **the woman**, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. **16 And the earth helped the woman**, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. **17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed**, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.



6

Genesis 3:14-15

The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."



7

Sun, Moon, Stars

Revelation 12:1

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the **sun**, with the **moon** under her feet, and on her head a crown of **twelve stars**.

References

Gen 37:9 Then he dreamed another dream and told it to his brothers and said, "Behold, I have dreamed another dream. Behold, the **sun**, the **moon**, and **eleven stars** were bowing down to me."



8

Birth pains

Revelation 12:2	References
She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth.	Isaiah 66:7-10 "Before she was in labor she gave birth; before her pain came upon her she delivered a son. Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things? Shall a land be born in one day? Shall a nation be brought forth in one moment? For as soon as Zion was in labor, she brought forth her children.



9

7 Heads/10 Horns

Revelation 12:3	References
And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.	<p>Beast #1 (Dan 7:4) – Lion (presumed to be Babylon) – 1 head and 0 horns</p> <p>Beast #2 – (Dan 7:5) Bear (Medio-Persia) – 1 head and 0 horns</p> <p>Beast #3 – (Dan 7:6) Leopard (Greek) – 4 heads and 0 horns</p> <p>Beast #4 – (Dan 7:7) Dreadful (Rome) – 1 head and 10 horns</p> <p><u>Total</u>: 7 heads and 10 horns</p>



10

Dragon pursues the woman

Revelation 12:4	References
His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.	Luke 10:18 – “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”



11

Rod of Iron/Caught up/Wilderness

Revelation 12:5-6	References
She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron , but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness , where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.	<p>Psa 2:9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.</p> <p>Rev 2:27 and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces</p>



12

Michael

Revelation 12:7-8

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven.

References

- One of the chief princes - Dan 10:13
- The Archangel - Jude 1:9; 1 Thess 4:16
- Daniel's prince - Dan 10:21
- Warrior for Israel - Dan 12:1
- Fought with Satan for Body of Moses - Jude 9
- Fought in "Wars of the Lord" - Zech 14:3; Num 21:14

Michael is ALWAYS involved in a military mission to protect Israel



13

The Satan

Revelation 12:9

And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and **Satan**, the deceiver of the whole world—he was **thrown down** to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

References

Satan — Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 (required reading!)

- *Also Babylon: Isaiah 13/14, Jeremiah 50/51, Revelation 17/18*

1 Pet 5:8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.



14

And there was much rejoicing

Revelation 12:10-11

And 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 brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered (overcame) him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

References



15

Nothing to Lose

Revelation 12:12-13

Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But **woe** to you, O **earth and sea**, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, **because he knows that his time is short!**” And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

References



16

On eagle's wings

Revelation 12:14	References
But the woman was given the two wings of the great eagle so that she might fly from the serpent into the wilderness , to the place where she is to be nourished for a time, and times, and half a time .	<p>Ex 19:4 You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.</p> <p>Isa 40:31 ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.</p>

17


The anti-Flood

Revelation 12:15	References
The serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood.	<p>Gen 6:17 For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die.</p>



18

God delivers His people

Revelation 12:16	References
But the earth came to the help of the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed the river that the dragon had poured from his mouth.	<p>Psalm 124 If it had not been the LORD who was on our side— let Israel now say— if it had not been the LORD who was on our side when people rose up against us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters. Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth! We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped! Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.</p> 

19

Make war on those who keep God's commandments

Revelation 12:17	References
Then the dragon became furious with the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.	<p>Romans 13:10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.</p> <p>Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.</p>



20

Mystery Verse

Revelation

ESV 12:17 And he (the dragon) stood on the sand of the sea.

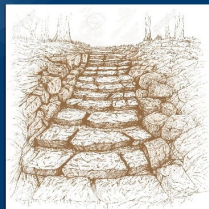
NLT 12:18 Then the dragon took his stand on the shore beside the sea.

KJV 13:1 And I (John) stood upon the sand of the sea.



21

Talmidim Way



22