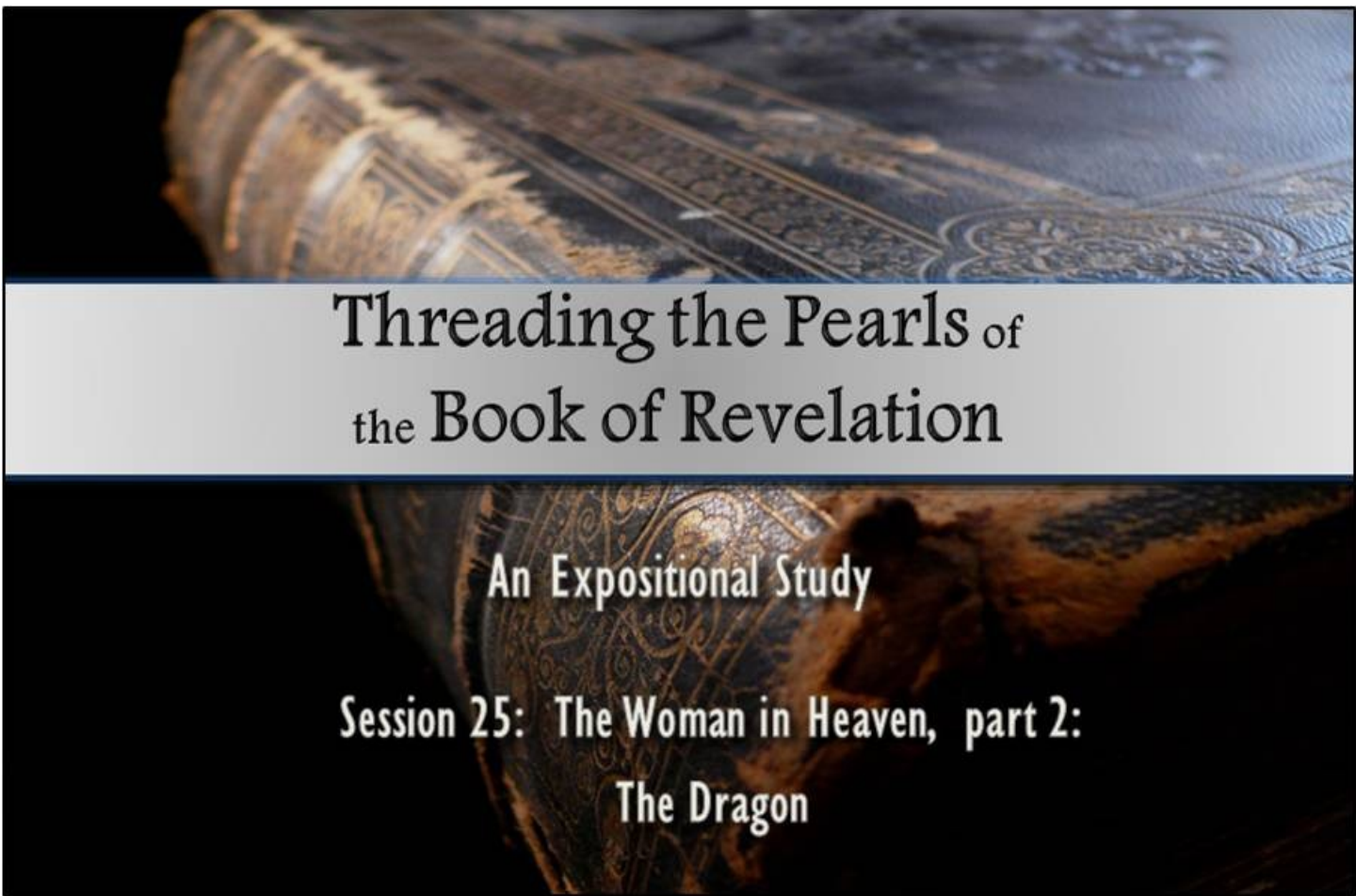




T H R E A D I N G T H E P E A R L S . o r g



Threading the Pearls of the Book of Revelation

An Expository Study

Session 25: The Woman in Heaven, part 2:
The Dragon

REVELATION 12:10 — 12:18

©2015
ThreadingthePearls.org

E-mail:
admin@threadingthepearls.org

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.

[REV 12:12]



REVELATION 12

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying: Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: because the accuser of our brethren is cast forth, who accused them before our God day and night.

I heard

ACTS 3:22-23, Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. *Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you.* ²³And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people'.

Loud voice in heaven say

REV 11:15, the seventh angel sounded: And there were *loud voices in heaven*, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"

Now have come

EXO 3:7-11, the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. ⁸So *I have come down to deliver them* out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey..."

JOSH 5:13-14, it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" ¹⁴So He said, "No, but *as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.*" And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"

The salvation

PSM 72:12-17, He will deliver the needy when he cries, The poor also, and him who has no helper. ¹³He will spare the poor and needy, And *will save the souls of the needy.* ¹⁴He will redeem their life from oppression and violence; And precious shall be their blood in His sight... ¹⁷His name shall endure forever; His name shall continue as long as the sun. And men shall be blessed in Him; All nations shall call Him blessed.

The power

MARK 14:60-62, the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?" ⁶¹But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ⁶²Jesus said, "I am. And you will see *the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power*, and coming with the clouds of heaven".

The kingdom

PSM 72:6-11, He shall come down like rain upon the grass before mowing, Like showers that water the earth. ⁷In His days the righteous shall flourish, And abundance of peace, Until the moon is no more. ⁸*He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.* ⁹Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him, And His enemies will lick the dust. ¹⁰The kings of Tarshish and of the isles Will bring presents; The kings of Sheba and Seba Will offer gifts. ¹¹Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; All nations shall serve Him.

CONSIDER THIS —

What the Lord has done in the past, and will do again!

EXO 3:7-8, the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. ⁸So *I have come down to deliver them* out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land..."

Of our God

MATH 6:9-13, "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰*Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.* ¹¹Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. ¹³And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The authority of his Christ

PSM 72:1-5, Give the king Your judgments, O God, And Your righteousness to the king's Son. ²*He will judge Your people with righteousness, And Your poor with justice.* ³The mountains will bring peace to the people, And the little hills, by righteousness. ⁴He will bring justice to the poor of the people; He will save the children of the needy, And will break in pieces the oppressor. ⁵They shall fear You As long as the sun and moon endure, Throughout all generations;
 HEB 9:28, Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him *He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.*

The accuser of our brothers

JOB 1:8-12, the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?" ⁹So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing?" ¹⁰"Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹"But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and *he will surely curse You to Your face!*" ¹²And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord;
 PSM 109:17-20, As he loved cursing, so let it come to him; As he did not delight in blessing, so let it be far from him. ¹⁸*As he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment,* So let it enter his body like water, And like oil into his bones. ¹⁹Let it be to him like the garment which covers him, And for a belt with which he girds himself continually. ²⁰Let this be the Lord's

reward to my accusers, And to those who speak evil against my person.

Accuses them before God

PSM 109:2-7, the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful Have opened against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue... ⁵Thus they have rewarded me evil for good, And hatred for my love. ⁶Set a wicked man over him, And *let an accuser stand at his right hand.* ⁷When he is judged, let him be found guilty...;
 JOB 2:3-5, the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." ⁴So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. ⁵"But stretch out Your hand now, and *touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!*"

Day and night

ISA 38:9-16, This is the writing of Hezekiah king of Judah...
¹²My life span is gone, Taken from me like a shepherd's tent; I have cut off my life like a weaver. He cuts me off from the loom; *From day until night You make an end of me.* ¹³I have considered until morning-Like a lion, So He breaks all my bones; From day until night You make an end of me. ¹⁴Like a crane or a swallow, so I chattered; I mourned like a dove; My eyes fail from looking upward. O Lord, I am oppressed...;
 ROM 13:12, *The night is far spent, the day is at hand.* Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Hurled down

ISA 14:12, *How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!* How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!





REVELATION 12

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of the testimony, and they loved not their lives unto death.

They overcame him

1JON 5:1-5, Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴For *whatever is born of God overcomes the world*. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Blood of the Lamb

ZECH 9:11-17, "As for you also, *Because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.* ¹²Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare That I will restore double to you. ¹³For I have bent Judah, My bow, Fitted the bow with Ephraim, And raised up your sons, O Zion, Against your sons, O Greece, And made you like the sword of a mighty man." ¹⁴Then the Lord will be seen over them, And His arrow will go forth like lightning. The Lord God will blow the trumpet, And go with whirlwinds from the south. ¹⁵The Lord of hosts will defend them; They shall devour and subdue with slingstones. They shall drink and roar as if with wine; They shall be filled with blood like basins, Like the corners of the altar. ¹⁶The Lord their God will save them in that day, As the flock of His people. For they shall be like the jewels of a crown, Lifted like a banner over His land ¹⁷For how great is its goodness And how great its beauty! Grain shall make the young men thrive, And new wine the young women.

Word of their testimony

1JON 5:6-12, This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸And *there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.* ⁹If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. ¹⁰He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; ... ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

They did not love their lives

JOHN 12:25, He who loves his life will lose it, and *he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.*

They did not... shrink from death

PSM 68:20, Our God is the God of salvation; And *to God the Lord belong escapes from death;*
PRO 10:2-3, Treasures of wickedness profit nothing, But *righteousness delivers from death.* ³The Lord will not allow the righteous soul to famish, But He casts away the desire of the wicked;
JOHN 15:13, Greater love has no one than this, than *to lay down one's life for his friends.*

CONSIDER THIS —

The result of the King's new covenant:

ZECH 9:9-12, Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, *your King is coming to you;* He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey... ¹¹"As for you also, Because of the blood of your covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to the stronghold, You prisoners of hope. Even today I declare That I will restore double to you.



REVELATION 12

12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you that dwell therein. Woe to the earth, and to the sea, because the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, knowing that he hath but a short time.

Therefore rejoice

MATH 5:11-12, Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹²"*Rejoice and be exceedingly glad*, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you;

1COR 12:25-26, there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, *all the members rejoice with it*.

Rejoice, you heavens

PSM 97:9-12, For You, Lord, are most high above all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods. ¹⁰You who love the Lord, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked. ¹¹Light is sown for the righteous, And gladness for the upright in heart. ¹²*Rejoice in the Lord*, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.

Who dwell in [the heavens]

ISA 57:15, thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "*I dwell in the high and holy place*, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Woe to the earth and the sea

PSM 73:3-9, I was envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked. ⁴For there are no pangs in their death, But their strength is firm. ⁵They are not in trouble as other men, Nor are they plagued like other men. ⁶Therefore pride serves as their necklace; Violence covers them like a garment. ⁷Their eyes bulge with abundance; They have more than heart could wish. ⁸They scoff and speak wickedly concerning oppression; They speak loftily. ⁹They set their mouth against the heavens, And *their tongue walks through the earth*;
ISA 24:12-17, ...¹⁶From the ends of the earth we have heard songs: "Glory to the righteous!" But I said, "I am ruined, ruined! *Woe to me! The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously*, Indeed, the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously." ¹⁷Fear and the pit and the snare Are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth.

The devil has gone down to you

ISA 14:9-11, "*Hell from beneath is excited about you, To meet you at your coming*; It stirs up the dead for you, All the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones All the kings of the nations. ¹⁰They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us? ¹¹Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, And the sound of your stringed instruments; The maggot is spread under you, And worms cover you'.

CONSIDER THIS —

Can God use evil men for His purposes?

JER 51:20-24, "You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: For with you I will break the nation in pieces; With you I will destroy kingdoms... ²³And with you I will break in pieces governors and rulers. ²⁴And *I will repay Babylon...*

☛ We will see in upcoming sessions: the Woman riding the Beast – is devoured by the Beast.

[The devil] is filled with fury

JER 51:20-24, "*You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: For with you I will break the nation in pieces; With you I will destroy kingdoms; ²¹With you I will break in pieces the horse and its rider; With you I will break in pieces the chariot and its rider; its rider; ²²With you also I will break in pieces man and woman; With you I will break in pieces old and young; With you I will break in pieces the young man and the maiden; ²³With you also I will break in pieces the shepherd and his flock; With you I will break in pieces the farmer and his yoke of oxen; And with you I will break in pieces governors and rulers. ²⁴And I will repay Babylon And all the inhabitants of Chaldea For all the evil they have done In Zion in your sight," says the Lord.*

[The devil] knows

LUKE 4:41, demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!" And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for *they knew that He was the Christ.*

[The devil's] time is short

HAB 2:3-8, the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry. ⁴"Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith. ⁵"Indeed, because he transgresses by wine, He is a proud man, And he does not stay at home. Because he enlarges his desire as hell, And he is like death, and cannot be satisfied, He gathers to himself all nations And heaps up for himself all peoples. ⁶"Will not all these take up a proverb against him, And a taunting riddle against him, and say, 'Woe to him who increases What is not his-how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges?' ⁷Will not your creditors rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And you will become their booty. ⁸Because *you have plundered many nations, All the remnant of the people shall plunder you, Because of men's blood And the violence of the land and the city, And of all who dwell in it.*





REVELATION 12

13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman, who brought forth the man child:

The dragon saw

EZE 31:8-15 [KJV], The cedars in the garden of God could not hide him: the fir trees were not like his boughs, and the chestnut trees were not like his branches; nor any tree in the garden of God was like unto him in his beauty. ⁹I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied him. ¹⁰Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thou hast lifted up thyself in height, and he hath shot up his top among the thick boughs, and his heart is lifted up in his height; ¹¹I have therefore delivered him into the hand of the mighty one of the heathen; he shall surely deal with him: *I have driven him out for his wickedness...* ¹³Upon his ruin shall all the fowls of the heaven remain, and all the beasts of the field shall be upon his branches...

[The dragon] had been hurled to the earth

GEN 3:13-14, the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." ¹⁴So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; *On your belly you shall go,* And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

[The dragon] pursued the woman

JOSH 11:18-22, Joshua made war a long time with all those kings... ²⁰For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that *they should come against Israel in battle*, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses. ²¹And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims... Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities...

The woman who had given birth

GEN 3:15, I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And *between your seed and her Seed*; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel";

GEN 12:1-3, the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And *in you* all the families of the earth shall be blessed";

ROM 9:27-30, Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel: "Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, The remnant will be saved. ²⁸For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness, Because the Lord will make a short work upon the earth." ²⁹And as Isaiah said before: "Unless the Lord of Sabaoth had *left us a seed*, We would have become like Sodom, And we would have been made like Gomorrah".

The male child

JER 23:5, "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "That I will *raise to David a Branch* of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth;

MATH 4:13-16, leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ¹⁵"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: ¹⁶*The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,* And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned".

CONSIDER THIS —

Who might this tree be, which Ezekiel describes? Was Pharaoh in Eden?

EZE 31:9-18, I have made him fair by the multitude of his branches: so that all the trees of Eden, that were in the garden of God, envied him... ¹⁶I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden... ¹⁸To whom art thou thus like in glory and in greatness among the trees of Eden? yet shalt thou be brought down with the trees of Eden unto the nether parts of the earth... This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.



REVELATION 12

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

The woman was given two wings

EXO 19:4-5, 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how *I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.*
⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine;
PSM 91:3-8, Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. ⁴He shall cover you with His feathers, And *under His wings you shall take refuge;* His truth shall be your shield and buckler...

Wings of a great eagle

DEUT 32:10-14, "He found him in a desert land And in the wasteland, a howling wilderness; He encircled him, He instructed him, He kept him as the apple of His eye. ¹¹As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, *Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings,* ¹²So the Lord alone led him, And there was no foreign god with him. ¹³"He made him ride in the heights of the earth, That he might eat the produce of the fields; He made him draw honey from the rock, And oil from the flinty rock; ¹⁴Curds from the cattle, and milk of the flock, With fat of lambs; And rams of the breed of Bashan, and goats, With the choicest wheat; And you drank wine, the blood of the grapes;
ISA 40:30-31, Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, ³¹But those who wait on 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.

Fly to the place

PSM 55:5-6, Fearfulness and trembling have come upon me, And horror has overwhelmed me. ⁶So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! *I would fly away and be at rest.* ⁷Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah.

Prepared for her

EXO 21:12-13, He who strikes a man so that he dies shall surely be put to death. ¹³"However, if he did not lie in wait, but God delivered him into his hand, then *I will appoint for you a place where he may flee.*

In the desert

ISA 35:1-4, The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, And *the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;* ²It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, Even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, The excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, The excellency of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, And make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, With the recompense of God; He will come and save you".

[The woman] would be taken care of

ISA 26:20-21, Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, *Until the indignation is past.* ²¹For behold, the Lord comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain.

CONSIDER THIS —

1 + 2 + one half = 3 ½; or, one half-week (7) of years = 3 ½:

DAN 9:27, he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But *in the middle of the week* He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate...

A time, times and half a time*

* NOTE — 1 + 2 + one half = 3 ½;

or: one half-week (7) of years = 3 ½, as in:

DAN 9:27, he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But *in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering*. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate";

DAN 12:5-7, I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank. ⁶And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?" ⁷Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that *it shall be for a time, times, and half a time*; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished.

Out of the serpent's reach

EZE 20:33-37, "As I live," says the Lord God, "surely with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out, I will rule over you. ³⁴"I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand, with an outstretched arm, and with fury poured out. ³⁵"And *I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples*, and there I will plead My case with you face to face. ³⁶"Just as I pleaded My case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead My case with you," says the Lord God. ³⁷"I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant;

GEN 19:6-11, ...⁹they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door. ¹⁰But *the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them*, and shut the door. ¹¹And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door.





REVELATION 12

15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth after the woman, water as it were a river; that he might cause her to be carried away by the river.

From [the serpent's] mouth

PSM 10:2-7, In arrogance, the wicked hunt down the weak; They are caught in the schemes that they devise. ³For the wicked boasts of his heart's cravings, He blesses the greedy, and condemns Yahweh. ⁴The wicked, in the pride of his face, Has no room in his thoughts for God. ⁵His ways are prosperous at all times; He is haughty, and your laws are far from his sight: As for all his adversaries, he sneers at them. ⁶He says in his heart, "I shall not be shaken; For generations I shall have no trouble." ⁷*His mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and oppression.* Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.

To overtake the woman

EZE 19:10-14, 'Your mother was like a vine in your bloodline, Planted by the waters, Fruitful and full of branches Because of many waters. ¹¹She had strong branches for scepters of rulers. She towered in stature above the thick branches, And was seen in her height amid the dense foliage. ¹²But she was plucked up in fury, She was cast down to the ground, And the east wind dried her fruit. *Her strong branches were broken and withered*; The fire consumed them. ¹³And now she is planted in the wilderness, In a dry and thirsty land. ¹⁴Fire has come out from a rod of her branches And devoured her fruit, So that she has no strong branch-a scepter for ruling.'" This is a lamentation, and has become a lamentation.

The serpent spewed water

ISA 8:6-8, "Inasmuch as these people refused The waters of Shiloah that flow softly, And rejoice in Rezin and in Remaliah's son; ⁷Now therefore, behold, the Lord brings up over them The waters of the River, strong and mighty-The king of Assyria and all his glory; He will go up over all his channels And go over all his banks. ⁸He will pass through

Judah, *He will overflow and pass over*, He will reach up to the neck; And the stretching out of his wings Will fill the breadth of Your land, O Immanuel.

Like a river

2PET 3:3-6, scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." ⁵For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, ⁶by which the world that then existed perished, *being flooded with water.*

Sweep her away

PSM 124:1-8, "If it had not been the Lord who was on our side," Let Israel now say ²"If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, When men rose up against us, ³Then they would have swallowed us alive, When their wrath was kindled against us; ⁴Then the waters would have overwhelmed us, The stream would have gone over our soul; ⁵Then *the swollen waters Would have gone over our soul.*" ⁶Blessed be the Lord, Who has not given us as prey to their teeth. ⁷Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers; The snare is broken, and we have escaped. ⁸Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.

With the torrent

DAN 9:26, after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. *The end of it shall be with a flood*, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

CONSIDER THIS —

The Assyrian comes again as a flood!

ISA 8:6-8, "Inasmuch as these people refused The waters of Shiloah that flow softly... ⁷Now therefore, behold, the Lord brings up over them The waters of the River, strong and mighty-The king of Assyria and all his glory; *He will go up over all his channels And go over all his banks.* ⁸He will pass through Judah, He will overflow and pass over, He will reach up to the neck; And the stretching out of his wings Will fill the breadth of Your land, O Immanuel.



REVELATION 12

16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the river, which the dragon cast out of his mouth.

The earth helped the woman

HOS 13:4-9, I am the Lord your God Ever since the land of Egypt, And you shall know no God but Me; For there is no Savior besides Me. ⁵I knew you in the wilderness, In the land of great drought. ⁶When *they had pasture, they were filled*; They were filled and their heart was exalted; Therefore they forgot Me. ⁷So I will be to them like a lion; Like a leopard by the road I will lurk; ⁸I will meet them like a bear deprived of her cubs; I will tear open their rib cage, And there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast shall tear them. ⁹O Israel, you are destroyed, But your help is from Me.

[Earth] opening its mouth

ISA 45:7-13, I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.' ⁸"Rain down, you heavens, from above, And let the skies pour down righteousness; *Let the earth open, let them bring forth salvation*, And let righteousness spring up together. I, the Lord, have created it. ⁹"Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! ...¹²I have made the earth, And created man on it. I-My hands- stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded. ¹³I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says the Lord of hosts.

[Earth] swallowing the river

PSM 32:6-8, For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You In a time when You may be found; *Surely in a flood of great waters They shall not come near him*. ⁷You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. Selah ⁸I will instruct

you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

The dragon had spewed

PSM 52:1-5, Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God endures continually. ²Your tongue devises destruction, Like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. ³You love evil more than good, Lying rather than speaking righteousness. Selah ⁴*You love all devouring words*, You deceitful tongue. ⁵God shall likewise destroy you forever; He shall take you away, and pluck you out of your dwelling place, And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah.

Out of his mouth

LUKE 6:45, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and *an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil*. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks;

PSM 36:1-4, concerning the transgression of the wicked: There is no fear of God before his eyes. ²For he flatters himself in his own eyes, When he finds out his iniquity and when he hates. ³*The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit*; He has ceased to be wise and to do good. ⁴He devises wickedness on his bed; He sets himself in a way that is not good; He does not abhor evil;

PSM 55:19-21, Because they do not change, Therefore they do not fear God. ²⁰He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has broken his covenant. ²¹*The words of his mouth were smoother than butter*, But war was in his heart; His words were softer than oil, Yet they were drawn swords.

CONSIDER THIS —

Who fights under the emblem of swords?

PSM 55:20-21, He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has broken his covenant. ²¹The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war was in his heart; His words were softer than oil, Yet *they were drawn swords*.



REVELATION 12

17 And the dragon was angry against the woman: and went to make war with the rest of her seed, who keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.
18 And he stood upon the sand of the sea.

The dragon was enraged

PRO 29:22, An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression;

PRO 22:24-25, Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, ²⁵Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul.

Enraged at the woman

ROM 11:1-5, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! ... ²God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying, ³"Lord, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life"? ⁴But what does the divine response say to him? "I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." ⁵Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace;

PRO 14:16-17, A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self-confident. ¹⁷A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

[The dragon] went off

LUKE 22:31-32, the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. ³²"But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren";

JOSH 24:9, Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose to make war against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you.

Make war

ZECH 12:9-10, "It shall be in that day that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. ¹⁰"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn;

2KING 16:5, Rezin king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, came up to Jerusalem to make war; and they besieged Ahaz but could not overcome him.

The rest of her offspring

HOS 11:3-8, I taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But they did not know that I healed them. ⁴I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them... ⁸"How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I set you like Zeboiim? My heart churns within Me; My sympathy is stirred;

JER 5:15-18, Behold, I will bring a nation against you from afar, O house of Israel," says the Lord."It is a mighty nation, It is an ancient nation, A nation whose language you do not know, Nor can you understand what they say. ¹⁶Their quiver is like an open tomb; They are all mighty men. ¹⁷And they shall eat up your harvest and your bread, Which your sons and daughters should eat. They shall eat up your flocks and your herds; They shall eat up your vines and your fig trees; They shall destroy your fortified cities, In which you trust, with the sword. ¹⁸"Nevertheless in those days," says the Lord, "I will not make a complete end of you.

CONSIDER THIS —

Who might be signified by the idiom of the ‘Assyrian’?

ZECH 10:11, He shall pass through the sea with affliction, And strike the waves of the sea: All the depths of the River shall dry up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, And the scepter of Egypt shall depart.

Those who obey

EZE 20:40-44, on My holy mountain, on the mountain height of Israel," says the Lord God, "there all the house of Israel, *all of them in the land, shall serve Me*; there I will accept them, and there I will require your offerings and the firstfruits of your sacrifices, together with all your holy things...⁴³"And there you shall remember your ways and all your doings with which you were defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight because of all the evils that you have committed.⁴⁴"Then you shall know that I am the Lord, when I have dealt with you for My name's sake, not according to your wicked ways nor according to your corrupt doings, O house of Israel," says the Lord God".

God's commandments

DEUT 11:1-2, you shall love the Lord your God, and *keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always*.²"Know today that I do not speak with your children, who have not known and who have not seen the chastening of the Lord your God, His greatness and His mighty hand and His outstretched arm;

JOSH 22:5, take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways, to *keep His commandments*, to hold fast to Him, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul".

[AND] Hold to the testimony of Jesus

ACTS 15:7-11, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.⁸"So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us,⁹"and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.¹⁰"Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?¹¹"But we believe that *through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved* in the same manner as they".

[The dragon]* stood

* NOTE — some manuscripts say "I stood" as in:

GEN 41:17-21, Pharaoh said to Joseph: "Behold, in my dream *I stood on the bank of the river*.¹⁸"Suddenly seven cows came up out of the river, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow.¹⁹"Then behold, seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and gaunt, such ugliness as I have never seen in all the land of Egypt.²⁰"And the gaunt and ugly cows ate up the first seven, the fat cows.²¹"When they had eaten them up, no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were just as ugly as at the beginning. So I awoke.

The shore of the sea

ISA 21:1-2, *The burden against the Wilderness of the Sea. As whirlwinds in the South pass through, So it comes from the desert, from a terrible land.*²A distressing vision is declared to me; The treacherous dealer deals treacherously, And the plunderer plunders;

ZECH 10:11, He shall pass through the sea with affliction, *And strike the waves of the sea*: All the depths of the River shall dry up. Then the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, And the scepter of Egypt shall depart.





GROUP DISCUSSION

REV 12:10, I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, *has been cast down*.

⊕ **1. Who is the accuser of our brethren?**

(see REV 12:9)

REV 12:11, they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and *they did not love their lives* to the death.

⊕ **2. What is the meaning of the phrase ‘not love their lives’? How might that attitude change someone?**

(see also JOHN 12:25-26 & MATH 10:37-39)

REV 12:12, Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because *he knows that he has a short time*.

⊕ **3. How does the devil *know* that he has a short time?**

(see ISA 14:9-25, EZE 28:15-20 & REV 12:6)

REV 12:13, when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child.

⊕ **4. Who is the dragon persecuting? On what people group might the dragon’s efforts be focused? Why?**

(see also PSM 37:7-11, JER 23:5-6, DAN 2:34-35,

DAN 2:44-45, ZECH 14:7-9 & REV 22:5)

REV 12:14, the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for *a time and times and half a time*, from the presence of the serpent.

⊕ **5. What is the meaning of ‘a time and times and half a time’?**

(see DAN 12:4-9, REV 11:1-3, REV 12:6 & REV 13:5)

REV 12:17, the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with *the rest of her offspring*, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

⊕ **6. Considering that the idiom of the woman signifies Israel, who are the ‘rest’ of the offspring of the woman? Why would they have the testimony of Jesus Christ?**

(see also DEUT 33:26-29, ISA 45:15-25, JER 23:5-8,

JER 30:7-11, ZECH 8:7-13 & ROM 11:25-26)

NEXT SESSION —