

Remember anyone reading the NT text would have initially been a First Century Jew. Instead of reading our conjecture or tradition into the texts, we must ask ourselves if we have any Scripture on which to build our understanding of the complicated text in this chapter.

There are two people groups in this chapter:

1. The ones who had to come to the end of themselves by scourging
2. The ones who overcame by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; for they did not love their lives to the point of death. (Martyrs)

Revelation 12:1-4

A GREAT SIGN

The woman is Israel (some Westerners would say the church) but more than likely referring to Joseph's vision (**Genesis 37:5-9**) as he was a foreshadowing of the coming Messiah. Then the stars would point to Abraham's vision and covenant with God.

(Genesis 15:5)

The male child is Messiah- the Promised Seed

A GREAT SIGN

The dragon is Satan

The Magi were said to be led by prophecy (too many to list here) as well as signs from the celestial realm as told in **Matthew 2:2-5**

☑ One Example:

(Micah 5:2)

"Bethlehem Ephrath, you are small among the clans of Judah; one will come from you to be ruler over Israel for me. His origin IS FROM ANTIQUITY, FROM ANCIENT TIMES"

(Sept 23rd 2017 was not the sign and proved to be false as many were in error as they put this sign in the place of the Rapture occurring)

Matthew 2:13-21

"Get up and flee for Herod will be looking to destroy the child"

Historically even Herod knew there would be a "coming King" (Isaiah 7:14)

In this chapter we are looking at a broad picture or "portent" of history. But the picture zeros in on the final 3 1/2 years before the return of Jesus. To summarize it would be something like: Revelation 12 provides the completed picture God ultimately intended.

Revelation 12:5 (a)

"She gave birth to a Son, a male who is going to rule all nations with an iron rod."

Psalm 2- The nations rage but MY response is installing MY king. He will be installed as the King of Israel and the enthronement of the ultimate ruler of Israel- *the Messiah*

*Any first Century Jew would have reverted back to the figure that was to come and now it is being foretold he would return. They would have also thought of **Daniel 7** as it is the culmination of what Christ, Beasts, and Anti-Christ will do at the time of the end.*

Revelation 12:5 (b)

Her son was caught up to God and to his throne (Acts 1:9-11) when Jesus appeared then was lifted up out of their sight. Two angels appear to say why are you looking to heaven. He will come back as he left. Ascended and will come again (Nicene Creed)... See also Hebrews 10

Revelation 12:6

The woman flees to the desert (wilderness)- desolate place void of activity
Refers back to the Exodus which is where they will return to when Christ comes to lead them into the actual promised land.

The days are expressed in different ways 1,260 days or 3 1/2 years (Daniel 12:5-7)

Israel will be broken so she will return to Him, but he has a place that He will keep Israel safe. It will be the worst time in history. Many will not be saved from this time. Israel will be broken and brought to the end of her strength. There is a general picture that during this last exodus back to the desert.

(Don't forget the indictment against Israel in **Deuteronomy 32:36-39** when we are told that He will have compassion on His servants when their strength is exhausted and none is remaining... then He will say "Where are your gods now")

Israel is one of the most unholy places in the world at this current time, but justice is coming when the Lord returns. The story culminates when Israel is broken and healed by GOD as HE shows them HE is the TRUE GOD.

THE DRAGON THROWN OUT OF HEAVEN-

Satan has not "officially" been thrown out as he is still able to torture the saints. He knows his time is short these last 3 1/2 years. (Rev.12:12)

Revelation 12:7

Jews would refer to Daniel 8:9-12-Greek and Mede-Persian Empire and the Little Horn which grew to be great.

BUT in **Daniel 8:15-27**- Gabriel said **THREE TIMES** this is concerning the time OF THE END.

(STUDY THESE PROPHECIES BEFORE DRAWING A CONCLUSION OF THIS CHAPTER)

So we know there is a much bigger picture here which is now being shown to John in the Revelation of Chapter 12. It is the fulfillment of Daniel's prophetic writings.

Revelation 12:8

“Any longer in heaven” refers to the concept of the divine council from Psalm 82
Satan or *Ha Satan* is now banished from the divine council in heaven to earth, then to
the abyss Rev. 20:1-3, then finally to the lake of fire Rev. 20:10.

(See 1 Kings 22:19-23)

NOTE:

- A. Michael Heiser wrote extensively on this in his book *Supernatural Realm*
- B. See Also www.biblia.com expository on the “divine council”
(Taken from the About Faithlife Study Bible or FSB within the Logos Software)

Revelation 12:13

THE WOMAN PERSECUTED, THE WILDERNESS, THE REMNANT

The Woman is Taken on Two Wings of a great EAGLE

Another “wings of an eagle” reference (Exodus 19:1-6)
SO as it was in the first Exodus so it will be in the final Exodus
Wings indicate ‘holy transport’ (Acts 8:39)

THE WILDERNESS

Another reference to the 3 1/2 years (is it an actual 3 1/2 years or a state of being?)

- Wilderness protected Moses & Israel in the wilderness
- Elijah was preserved for 3 1/2 years in the wilderness
- The wilderness experience is the FULFILLMENT of the FEAST OF BOOTHS or SHELTERS (Deut. 16:13-17)

NOTE:

Some say that this represents the Bride in the desert as they are the Christians who were not raptured at the Second Coming of Christ (1 Thess. 4:15-18; compare Isaiah 26:20-21)

Isaiah 28:18-19

You entered into a covenant with death but your covenant with Sheol will not stand when the overwhelming scourge passes through. Combines flood with whips. As you are trampled by the Anti-Christ armies. The Antichrist is described as a flood.

Revelation 12:15-17

“From his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river flowing after the woman, to sweep her away with a flood....” See Below

“So shall they fear the name of the Lord from the west, and his glory from rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:59 KJV)

We all know what it is like for the enemy to charge in like roaring waters of pain and hardship. Even in the midst of those struggles, God continues to raise a standard against the enemy. God WILL work ALL not SOME but ALL things together for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. (Rom. 8:28)

THE REMNANT

Remember there are two people groups referenced in this chapter and in earlier references the overcomes and the non-overcomers. And then the ones who did not love their life unto death (Martyrs)

Who are they?

1. The foolish virgins
2. The remaining saints saved during the torment of the judgments
3. The tribulation saints overcome by the Beast (Rev. 7:14, 13:7, 10; Dan. 7:21, 25; Rev. 14:6-13)
4. The outer darkness hypocrite believers (Matt. 8:12; 24:51; 25:30; Rev.11:1-2)
5. The saints not watching and praying, unworthy to escape (Luke 21:34-36)
6. The immature company of believers (1 Cor. 3:1-4, 10-15)