

STUDYING THE BOOK OF REVELATION
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 22 – The Woman and the Dragon - Revelation 12:1-17

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

REV 12:1 A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. [2] She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. [3] Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. [4] His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. [5] She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. [6] The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

REV 12:7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. [8] But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. [9] The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

REV 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

"Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.
For the accuser of our brothers,
who accuses them before our God day and night,
has been hurled down.

REV 12:11 They overcame him
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.

REV 12:12 Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short."

REV 12:13 When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. [14] The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach. [15] Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. [16] But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. [17] Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring--those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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286. After the seventh trumpet, what "great and wondrous sign" did John observe in heaven? (12:1)
287. How did John describe the woman in his vision? (12:2)
288. What second sign did John see in heaven? (12:3)
289. In what activities was the enormous red dragon involved? (12:4)
290. What did John say about the child born to the woman? (12:5)
291. What happened to the newborn child? (12:5)
292. Where did the woman go right after giving birth? (12:6)
293. What was taking place in heaven in John's vision? (12:7)
294. What happened to the dragon and his angels? (12:8-9)
295. By what names was the dragon known? (12:9)
296. What did a voice from heaven announce? (12:10)
297. How did the voice from heaven refer to Satan? (12:10)
298. According to the voice from heaven, how was Satan defeated? (12:11)
299. What warning was sounded to the earth and sea? Why? (12:12)
300. What happened when the dragon tried to destroy the woman? (12:13-13:1)

301. When the dragon was unable to kill the woman, where did he redirect his destructive efforts? (12:17-13:1)