

Revelation 12:1-17

Satan Versus Christ and His Church

Introduction:

In some ways chapter 12, is a key to the entire book of Revelation according to Derek Thomas. Thomas points out that “the cosmic struggle between the forces of darkness and the kingdom of God depicts a graphic account of just how malicious the opposition becomes.”

But the book of Revelation gives the assurance that Christ will be triumphant in all that He purposes to do. There is no uncertainty that Jesus reigns now opposed but when He returns for His Church, He will be unopposed. (II Thess. 2:8)

I. Satan’s Attempt to Destroy Christ – v.1-12

A. Persecution of all sorts – John 15:18

1. Satan and his work – chapter 12
2. Satan and his right hand man – chapter 13

B. Who is this woman?

1. Ans. The church, Isa. 26:17-18
2. Her apparel – v.1 (Rev. 19:7; 21:2,9; 22:17)
3. The church from heaven vantage point – Psalm 87:3; Turn To: Isaiah 60:1-3; 62:1-5

C. The Woman Pregnant – v.2

1. The seed of her offspring will crush the head of the serpent – Gen. 3:15; Rom. 16:20
2. The incarnation unto the ascension of Christ and the reign and rule of Christ
3. The church gives birth to Christ – Phil. 2:7; Isa. 11:1,2; Rom. 9:5

D. The Dragon v.3, cf. v.9

1. Satan persuades a third of the angels – v.4; II Cor. 4:4; I Pet. 2:4; Jude 6
2. Satan’s major intention is to devour Christ – I Pet. 5:8
3. Satan thrown out of heaven – v.7-9 (Daniel 10,12; Jude 9
4. Satan’s agony of defeat – v.10,11

II. Satan’s attempt to Destroy the Church – v.13-16

A. The church will undergo severe attacks but the Lord surrounds Jerusalem – Psa. 125:2

1. The church in the wilderness will be the devil’s attempt to conform the world to the world – Eph. 6:11
2. The church tempted to change the gospel message – (Robert Schuller’s self-esteem)
3. The church losing its saltiness by disrupting its fellowship – Gal. 5:15

B. The Indestructability of the church – Matt. 16:18; Eph. 5:25-27

C. Satan’s devices: (Thomas Brooks “Precious Remedies Against Satan Devices”)

1. Brooks names 38 devices and 196 remedies
2. Seven devices named: Two solutions – I Pet. 5:9; Jam. 4:7

