

Seven Great Openings

- A door opened in heaven Rev 4:1
- The seals are opened Rev 6:1-8:1
- The Abyss opened Rev 9:2
- Temple of God opened Rev 11:19
- Tabernacle of testimony opened Rev 15:5
- Heaven is opened Rev 19:11
- Books of Judgment opened. Rev 20:12

Next Session

Read Revelation chapter 12, one of the most important strategic summaries in the Bible. Who is the “Woman” of chapter 12? How does this chapter affect our perspectives of *today*?

The Book of Revelation Session 17: The Woman, Man Child & Dragon Revelation Chapter 12

And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Revelation 11:19

The end of the last chapter, Rev 11:19, really introduces Chapter 12.

The Woman and the Dragon

This is one of the most important chapters in the Bible: an overview of the enigma of Israel, without which the Bible cannot be fully understood.

Pattern for the Ark

Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Hebrews 8:5

The Mercy Seat

And David arose and went with all the people who were with him to Baale-Judah, to bring up from there the ark of God which is called by the Name, the very name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned above the cherubim.

2 Samuel 6:2 (NAS)

- 1] And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:
- 2] And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

Four Women of Revelation

- 1) Jezebel Rev 2:20
- 2) The Harlot Rev 17, 18
- 3) (This one) Rev 12, Jer 3:20
- 4) The Bride Rev 19:7; 21:2, 9
– Espoused Virgin 2 Cor 11:2

Women = religion... 2 good; 2 evil. If this woman is the bride, she is in a lot of trouble—she’s pregnant! Jer 3:20, 22 – “Israel as wife of YHWH” 1 Cor 10:32: Jews, Gentiles, Church are distinct. Her identity is interpreted for us by Jacob in Gen 37:5-11:

And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more. And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed: For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf. And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words. And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me. And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth? And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.

Genesis 37:5-11

The Woman

- Israel is described as a woman in travail in OT (Isa 54:5; 66:7; Jer 3:6f; Micah 4:10; 5:2-3);
- She gives birth to the man-child (Rev 12:5; Ps 2:9; Rev 2:27; Rev 19:15).
- This is Israel, not the Church (Micah 4:9; 5:2).
 - “Unto us a child is born...” (Isa 9:6).
 - “Seed of woman” (Gal 3:16; Jer 31:31).
 - The Messianic Line begins (Gen 3:15).

“Replacement Theology”

There is a widely held view that:

- A) When Israel rejected her messiah she forfeited the promises to her;
- B) These promises devolve upon the Church, thus, becoming “spiritual Israel.”

Israel appears 75 times in the New Testament; *each time it refers to national Israel*—including the solitary ostensible exception in Gal 6:16: the *kai* grammatically sets apart the “Israel of God” from the church, and prevents any synonymy [Lindsey; Johnson; Fruchtenbaum; et al.]

Major Problems

- The promises involved were *unconditional*.
- The Book of Romans stresses that God is *not* finished with Israel (Rom 9, 10, 11).
- The 70 Week Prophecy outlines the prophetic role of Israel after the “interval” of the Church period.
- Only during the interval *between* the 69th and 70th week is the period of the Church on the earth (Dan 9:26).
- Jesus has yet to fulfill the promise given to Mary to take *David’s* Throne (Luke 1:21).

From Augustine to Auschwitz to Armageddon

- Origen’s allegorical interpretations
- Augustine’s Amillennial Eschatology
- Medieval church’s quest for power
- Reformation’s failure to address eschatological issues
- The Holocaust in Germany
- The Great Tribulation

We will address these issues when we get to Revelation 20.

- 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.

“Red” only used 2X: Here, and Red horse (Rev 6:5)! Associated with death (6:4).

- 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.

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.

Revelation 12:9

“Devil” = slanderer, in Greek; “Satan” = adversary, in Hebrew.

- 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.

“Rule with a Rod of Iron”

- **Messianic Destiny:** Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel (Ps 2:9).
- **Letter to Church in Thyatira:** And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father (Rev 2:27).
- **Adversary of the Woman:** 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 (Rev 12:5).
- **The King of Kings:** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS (Rev 19:15-16).

- 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.

αρπάζω *Harpazo* to seize, carry off by force; to seize on, claim for one’s self eagerly; to snatch out or away. G.H. Pember was among the first to suggest that this verse may actually refer to the “**Body of Christ**” rather than the Ascension. [One of 24 similar “gaps” occur between verse 5 & 6...]

- 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.
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.

“And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven”:
Lk 10:18; Jn 16:11; 12:31.

Michael

- One of 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
- Fights for the body of Moses Jude 9
- Fought in "Wars of the Lord" Zech 14:3; Num 21:14

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.

Red Dragon: Satan

- Origin Ezek 28:2-15
- Rebellion in heaven Isa 14:12-17
 - [Gap?] Gen 1:2 vs. Isa 45:18
 - Ancient = beginning Gen 3
 - Stars = angels Jude 1:13
- Deceives the whole world 2 Cor 4:3,4
- Liar from the beginning Gen 3:4, 5; Jn 8:44
- Enmity with Man Gen 3:14-15
- Seven heads, 10 horns Rev 13:1; 17:3; cf. Dan 7, et al.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

Daniel 8:9, 10

Spiritual Warfare

- Background: 2 Cor 2:11; Rev 9, cf. Amos 7:1 (LXX); Eph 6:10-13; Isa 59:17
 - Elisha's servant 2 Kgs 6:16
 - Powers behind major empires Dan 10:12-20
- Satan's Methods: Gen 3; 2 Cor 4:3-4; Jn 8:44
 - Deceit 2 Thess 2:11
 - Ultimate lie
- The ultimate victory 1 Jn 4:4; 2 Kgs 6:16; Rom 8:25-38
- Satan already defeated 1 Jn 3:8; Heb 2:14; Jas 4:7; Eph 1:20-21; Heb 10:12, 13; Phil 2:9f; Ps 110:1; Rev 12:10

The Stratagems of Satan

- Cain's murder of Abel Gen 4
- Corruption of Adam's line Gen 6
- Abraham's seed Gen 12, 20
- Famine Gen 50
- Destruction of male line Ex 1
- Pharaoh's pursuit Ex 14
- The populating of Canaan Gen 12:6
- Against David's line 2 Sam 7

Satan attempts to thwart the Plan of God by destroying the nation and the Messianic line:

Attacks on David's Line

- Jehoram kills his brothers 2 Chr 21:16
- Arabians slew all (but Ahazariah)
- Athaliah kills all (but Joash) 2 Kgs 11:1-3; 2 Chr. 22
- Hezekiah assaulted, etc. Isa 36, 38
- Blood curse on Jeconiah Jer 22:30
 - thus, the Virgin Birth
- Haman's attempts Est 3

New Testament Stratagems

- Joseph's fears Mt 1
- Herod's attempts Mt 2
- At Nazareth Lk 4
- 2 storms on the Sea Mk 4; Lk 8
- The Cross
- Summary: Rev 12
 - ...and he's not through: Rev 13
 - ...in your life and mine! Eph 6:10-18

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

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

How Did They Overcome?

- His Blood Heb 9:12
- Word of testimony Mt 4:4, 7, 10; Eph 6:10-18; Isa 59:17
 - Book of Life Ex 32:32; Dan 12:1

- Loved not their lives Rom 6:11-13; 2 Tim 1:12; Acts 20:24; – cf. 2 witnesses of Ch 11

And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.

Exodus 32:31-33

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thypeople: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Daniel 12:1

- 12] Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. 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.

The Third woe? Cf. 11:14ff.

- 13] And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.
 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.

Focus : on Israel, particularly the faithful (Jer 30:7; Mt 24:15-22).

Israel's Respite

- Eagle: Ex 19:4; Deut 2:9-11
 - Eagles' wings from Egypt Ex 19:4
 - wilderness Deut 32:11-12
 - return from Babylon Isa 40:31
- Wilderness: Mt 24:16
 - Edom, Moab, Ammon Dan 11:41; Isa 11:16;
 - escape Antichrist Ezek 20:35-38
 - Door of hope Hos 2:14, 15; Ex 15; Zeph 2:3
- Earth swallows enemies of God Num 16:31,33; Micah 7:15

- 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.

[Cf. Psalm 124]

The Conflict Between Two Seeds

- The “Seed of the Woman.”
- The “Seed of the Serpent” (Satanic Trinity):
 - The Red Dragon: Satan.
 - The Coming World Leader.
 - The False Prophet.
- Forces behind world powers today.

Next Session

- Read Revelation chapter 13, which introduces the Satanic Duet:
 - The Beast out of the Sea.
 - The Beast out of the Earth.
- Background Passages:
 - Origin of Satan Isaiah 14, Ezekiel 28
 - The Assyrian Isaiah 10:24f, Micah 5:5f
 - Physical Description Zechariah 11:17

The Book of Revelation Session 18: The Two Beasts Revelation Chapter 13

The Seven Personages

- The Woman
- Man-Child
- Red Dragon
- Michael
- The Remnant of Israel
- **The Beast out of the Sea**
- **The Beast out of the Earth...both are featured in this chapter.**

The Seventh Trumpet introduces seven personages: [Note: the Jewishness of these parenthetical passages!]