



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 81

Name: _____

Read Revelation 12

Vision #4: The Seven Signs

Revelation 12 begins a new cycle or vision. The 7 trumpets are finished. This vision is of 7 signs and the next will be of 7 bowls. This vision again begins with the birth of Christ and continues to His 2nd coming. Chapter 12 is half way through Revelation and the rest of the book tends to look more behind the scenes to the battle between God and Satan.

1. In chapter 12, there are three main characters

- a. The _____: this does not refer to a particular woman (e.g. this does not refer to Mary the mother of Jesus). She is clothed with the _____, and the _____ ... and a crown of twelve _____. Whenever you see symbolism, the Old Testament provides a foundation for interpretation. In Genesis 37, what do these three things refer to?

_____ (father, mother, brothers/children). From this we see that the woman represents the covenant people or the church of the OT and NT.

- b. The _____ represents Satan. He is very powerful, not one to make light of. He has _____ heads and _____ crowns. The number _____ refers to completeness, perfectness. Satan is completely crowned by the world. The _____ heads refers to a frightening power. He has

tremendous influence throughout the world. He stood before the woman to _____ her child as soon as it was born. Satan didn't know when Christ would be born. He was ready to pounce. He destroyed Abel, the babies in Egypt, and the babies in Bethlehem. He even tried to wipe out the entire Jewish nation through Haman. Satan thought he destroyed Christ on the cross, but Christ rose again and is now in heaven. Satan continually fails. The Man Child is victorious.

- c. The _____ who was to rule all nations (Psalm 2) and was caught up to heaven (v. 5). This refers to Christ and His ascension – taken away from Satan's realm on earth.
2. And the _____ fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared for her there. The Dragon is enraged and wants to take down Christ's people. Satan looks for our weaknesses to keep us from Christ or if we are in Christ to weaken our witness. What Biblical examples of temptations can you give? _____
- _____
- _____

3. The dragon is overcome by the _____ of the _____.
- _____

Read Revelation 13

This is one of the most difficult chapters of Revelation. Remember, Revelation is a series of visions. Chapter 13 is a continuation of the vision of chapter 12 where Satan is at war with the church. Jesus, the man child, was caught up to heaven. Satan now turns his attention to the woman in the wilderness (the church in the NT age). Chapter 13 gives details of the war with Satan.

The first beast is visible, we can identify him. Be more concerned about the 2nd beast who seems Christian, evangelical, and even Reformed. He imitates God's language and speech.



4. A beast rises up out of the sea with 7 heads and 10 horns with 10 crowns, and upon his heads the name of _____. And the beast which I say was like unto a _____, and his feet were as the feet of a _____, and his mouth as the mouth of a _____: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. This is a fearsome, savage beast with all the characteristics of the four beasts in Daniel 7. This beast represents the worldly, secular, political powers that attack the church.
5. Another beast comes up out of the _____; and he had two horns like a _____, and he spake as a _____. This is a tame, appearing harmless, deceptive beast on the outside, but he speaks Satan's language. This beast is a very subtle, religious "lamb" that deceives within the Christian community.

The two beasts are often found together. A political power may be closely connected with a religious power or take over the religious leadership of a country. Satan uses human movements and human organizations rather than individuals as his beasts (humanism, permissiveness, entitlement). The beast has world-wide admiration. We need the whole armor of God to withstand.

6. The beast had power to give life unto the image of the beast...and he caused all to receive a _____ in their right _____ or in their _____. What is the mark? The mark is the method of recognizing one's followers – like a brand or mark of ownership. The forehead is the mind so one's worldview shows who we are following. The right hand represents work, trade or what one does. What we do shows whether we are a follower of Christ or Satan ("Ye shall know them by their fruits" Matt 7:16). There is an ongoing battle

- *Pray for grace to recognize the beast and to repent of our beastly heart.*
- *Ask for the Spirit to show us who we are and to trust in the Lamb.*
- *Don't rest until you can say, "My Lord, and My God" and declare to the world the worthiness of the Lamb.*

within the Christian to purge their thinking of any remnant of the Antichrist worldview and actions.

7. And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark or the name of the beast, or the _____ of his name.

8. What is the number of the beast? _____.

9. What is the number of perfection? _____

10. What _____ does _____ 6 _____ represent?

_____.

11. Look back at Rev. 12:12: the devil is come...having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a _____. The beasts' authority is temporary. Rev. 13:7: And power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. Remember – this is temporary!

Evaluator_____

Meditation

Jesus was grieved that we were shut out from the “holiest of all,” from the presence of God; for He knew by experience that in that presence there is fullness of joy. But how did he open the way? Did He pull aside the veil, that we might steal in secretly and easily into the presence of the Father? No; but He offered Himself an offering to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God. “He said, ‘It is finished’; and bowed His head, and gave up the ghost. And behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain, from the top to the bottom.” It is finished; the punishment of the law is borne, the demands of the law are answered, the way is finished, the veil is rent from the top to the bottom! Not a shred of the dreadful curtain now remains to intercept us. The guiltiest, the vilest sinner now has liberty to enter in through the rent veil, under the light of Jehovah’s countenance, to dwell in the secret of His tabernacle, to behold His beauty, and to inquire in His temple.

Gems of R.M.McCheyne