

Questions on Revelation chapter 12

1. The American Standard Version has "A great sign was seen in heaven." What was the great sign? Verse 1.

2. What was the woman's raiment, and can you think of anything of which the woman's raiment could be symbolic? Verse 1.

3. Commentators have held different views about the woman. (1) the Jewish nation; (2) the church in its New Testament sense; (3) the virgin Mary; (4) the collective spiritual body of God's people (in both Old and New Testament times). Which do you think is the most reasonable? Verse 1.

4. Many regard Revelation 12:2 as a paraphrase of Micah 4:10. What is symbolized by this state of an expectant mother? Verse 2.

5. What is the other sign (wonder) in heaven, and who or what does it symbolize? Verse 3.

6. What could the dragon's color, seven heads, ten horns, and seven crowns possibly symbolize, if anything? Verse 3.

7. What would the dragon accomplish if he could devour the child? Verse 4.

8. When you read Psalm 2:7-9, is there any question about the identity of the man child? Verse 5.

9. What happened to the woman who brought forth the man child? Verse 6.

10. Would the time mentioned here be the same as that during which the holy city was to be trodden under foot and the two witnesses would testify in sackcloth? Verse 6.

11. Three major views have been advanced concerning the war in heaven: (1) the primeval war between Satan and God; (2) an actual war in which Satan attempted to invade heaven and defeat the man child, but was repulsed and cast down; (3) a spiritual warfare that had been going on from the beginning, but reaches its climax in Christ's victory over Satan. Which do you think the most defensible by scripture? Verses 7-9.

12. Do you think about Jesus' statements in John 12:31, John 14:30, and John 16:11 in view of verses 7-9 of Revelation chapter 12?

13. According to the American Standard Version, the great voice said, "Now is come... the authority of His Christ" (verse 10). When did Jesus claim "all authority (or power)"? Can you think of some other scriptures that affirm the same thing? Verse 10.

14. What three things allowed the "brethren" to overcome Satan? Verse 11.

15. What causes rejoicing for the dwellers in the heavens and woe for the inhabitants of the earth and sea, and do you have an idea about what these three realms might represent? Verse 12.

16. To whom does the dragon (Satan) carry his war when he saw that he was cast unto the earth? Verse 13.

17. Has God ever protected His people in a wilderness? Verse 14. (See Exodus 19:4 and Deuteronomy 32:11)

18. How did the serpent (Satan) try to destroy the woman, and What is the only thing we

know of that comes out of his mouth? Verse 15.

19. If the earth represents human religion here, as it often does elsewhere, how does it help the woman? Verse 16.

20. Why is the dragon (Satan) so furious with the woman? Verse 17.

21. Who is "her seed"? Verse 17.

22. Do you think this verse helps us to understand who the woman is? Verse 17.