



END TIMES: WHAT'S GOING ON? "Seven Significant Visions" Revelation 12:1-14:20

No. 4607

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John records various visions that graphically explain why the churches are experiencing hostility, why the hostility will continue, and how it will ultimately be resolved.

I. A Woman, a Child, and a Dragon. 12:1-6

- A. A pregnant woman "clothed with sun...moon...stars": Israel. See Genesis 37:9
- B. An "enormous red dragon" with "heads...horns...crowns." See v. 9
- C. The child "snatched up" will "rule all the nations." See Psalm 2:7-9
- D. Woman in "desert...prepared for her by God...for 1260 days": New Israel.

II. War in Heaven. 12:7-12

- A. Cosmic conflict in the spiritual realm: Michael vs. Devil, Satan, Serpent.
- B. He "who leads the whole world astray...hurled to the earth...angels with him."
- C. But Christ has established His kingdom and His people will overcome by...
 - 1. "The blood of the Lamb."
 - 2. "Their testimony."
 - 3. "Their faithfulness."
- D. So heaven should rejoice, but earth beware because of Satan's "fury."

III. The Dragon and the Woman. 12:13-17

- A. The child escaped his clutches; Satan attacks the woman.
- B. The woman protected for "a time, times and half a time." see 11:2-3; 13:5
- C. Dragon enraged makes war against her offspring who obey and testify.

IV. The Beast from the Sea. 13:1-10

- A. Empowered by dragon, powerful, blasphemous.
- B. Irresistible, awesome, antichristian, universally acclaimed.
- C. Roman Empire? The State? Secular society? A challenge to the church.

V. The Beast Out of the Earth. 13:11-18

- A. Looks like a lamb; talks like the dragon.
- B. Magically deceives people into worship of the sea beast.
- C. Counterfeit religion that marks its followers...666!?

VI. The Lamb on Mount Zion. 14:1-5

- A. The Lamb established on the mountain by Jehovah. See Psalm 2:6
- B. The church, redeemed and pure, "marked" by the Father and His Son. 7:4

VII. The Harvest of the Earth. 14:6-20

- A. The proclamation of gospel includes announcement of judgment. vv. 6-7
- B. The judgment of God will be sharp and far reaching; the beast and followers.
- C. But "blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."