

Revelation 12

Table Revelation 12:1-17

- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*
- 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.*

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Revelation* pp 280-348 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 2, 8, 75-76, 506, 787, 818-819, 986-987, 1067, 1105, 1196, 1617, 1619-1620, 1657.

1. **Revelation 12:1-2.** Revelation 12:1-2 reveal this woman to be *“the heavenly vision”* Acts 26:19 of Israel according to Genesis 37:9-11 *“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 his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying”* with Joseph as the twelfth star and the closest Old Testament type of the Lord Jesus Christ Who is prophesied in Numbers 24:17 *“I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel...”*

“And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered” Revelation 12:2 because Micah prophesied comprehensively for Israel *“Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the LORD shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies”* Micah 4:10.

Today’s believer should therefore have the same attitude to young believers as Paul did according to Galatians 4:19 *“My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you.”*

2. **Revelation 12:3-4.** Revelation 12:3-4 are *“the heavenly vision”* Acts 26:19 of those of whom Paul states *“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places”* Ephesians 6:12 who fall to earth and at the Second Advent are cast into *“...everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels”* Matthew 25:41 as Isaiah describes together with the Lord’s judgement on this *“great red dragon”* Revelation 12:3 who nevertheless seeks to repeat what he inflicted on Israel under God’s judgement as in times past as these scriptures show. Note that the devil has angels, many of them, that follow him in the End Times.

Isaiah 27:1 “In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea”

Jeremiah 51:34 “Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon hath devoured me, he hath crushed me, he hath made me an empty vessel, he hath swallowed me up like a dragon, he hath filled his belly with my delicates, he hath cast me out”

Matthew 24:29 with Revelation 9:1 “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken...And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit”

The devil is *“...a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads”* Revelation 12:3 because crowns denote kingdoms and horns denote power of rulership according to, in this case the Lord at the Second Advent, Habakkuk 3:4 *“And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power.”*

Luke therefore reveals this kingly power that the devil retains until the Second Advent in Luke 4:5-6 *“And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.”*

The Lord Jesus Christ will depose *“...the devil and his angels”* at the Second Advent:

Psalm 110:6 “He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries”

Habakkuk 3:13 “Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, even for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering the foundation unto the neck. *Selah.*”

Today’s believers should therefore always seek to apply Ephesians 6:13 “Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

3. *Revelation 12:5-6*. Jeremiah describes Israel’s “...*man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron*” *Revelation 12:5* as having been captured by the enemy in the context of Israel’s flight into the wilderness or that of her believing remnant to escape her persecutors in *Lamentations 4:19-20* “Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven: they pursued us upon the mountains, they laid wait for us in the wilderness. The breath of our nostrils, the anointed of the LORD, was taken in their pits, of whom we said, Under his shadow we shall live among the heathen.” See the attached studies **Job 1 – Summary Thoughts** and **SATAN THE DEVIL** with respect to the enemy’s End Times persecution of Israel. Isaiah and James appear to describe the fate of this man child and his deliverance where “...*her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne*” *Revelation 12:5* when addressing or referring to rebellious Israel and Israel’s enemies in the End Times as these scriptures show.

Isaiah 28:14-15 “Wherefore hear the word of the LORD, ye scornful men, that rule this people which is in Jerusalem...ye have said, We have made a covenant with death, and with hell are we at agreement; when the overflowing scourge shall pass through, it shall not come unto us: for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood have we hid ourselves”

Isaiah 57:1-2 “The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness”

James 5:1, 5-6 “Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you...Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.”

Concerning the identity of this man child, when the Lord Jesus Christ is referred to explicitly in *Psalm 2:6-9, 12* “Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel...Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him” who is this man child if doctrinally he is not the Lord Jesus Christ?

This writer concludes that this man child is “*my servant David*” *2 Samuel 3:18, 7:5, 8, 1 Kings 14:8, 2 Chronicles 17:7, Ezekiel 34:23, 24, 37:25* who once testified to Jonathan concerning Saul who made repeated attempts kill David, *1 Samuel 18:10-11, 21, 19:1, 9-11, 15* that “...*but truly as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, there is but a step between me and death*” *1 Samuel 20:3*. It would appear that as “*the anointed of the LORD*” *Lamentations 4:20* David is at that step with “*the son of wickedness*” *Psalm 89:22* in the End Times but avoids it as “...*he slipped away out of Saul’s presence*” *1 Samuel 19:10* as *Lamentations 4:20, Revelation 12:5* show.

At the Second Advent therefore “...*at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints*” *1 Thessalonians 3:13* David returns with the Lord Jesus Christ to rule as His Viceroy according to the prophecy of *Jude 14-15* “*And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon*

all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” Note these scriptures in support of that conclusion.

1 Samuel 16:12-13 “...Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward...”

1 Chronicles 14:17 “And the fame of David went out into all lands; and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations”

Psalms 89:3, 20-24 “I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant...I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him: With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him. The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him. And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him. But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted”

Ezekiel 34:22-24 “Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey...And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd. And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I the LORD have spoken it”

Ezekiel 37:25 “And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children’s children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.”

Revelation 12:6 is the End Times fulfilment of the scriptures listed below. Note that Revelation 12:6 contains the progressive revelation of the necessary time element “...that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days” “they” ironically being God and Leviathan, Psalm 74:14, because “...the dragon...gave power unto the beast...and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months...and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed” Revelation 13:4-5, 15 specifically to progress the persecution of Israel via worship of an image insofar as the Lord commands Israel “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me” Exodus 20:4-5.

Psalms 74:14 “Thou brakest the heads of leviathan in pieces, and gavest him to be meat to the people inhabiting the wilderness”

Hosea 2:14 “Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her”

Micah 7:14-15 “Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.” Note with Psalm 74:14 that God’s rod is the devil as shown in 2 Samuel 24:1, 1 Chronicles 21:1 “And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah...And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.”

Concerning God’s provision today’s believer should be encouraged by Matthew 6:26 “Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?”

4. Revelation 12:7-9. Concerning “**war in heaven**” Revelation 12:7 the dragon has “...**the third part of the stars of heaven...**” Revelation 12:4 with him so that today’s believer can take comfort in the principle of 2 Kings 6:16 “...**Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them**” in that under Michael *two* thirds of the angels together with the Persons of “**the Godhead**” Acts 17:29, Romans 1:20, Colossians 2:9 “**For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one**” 1 John 5:7 oppose the devil and his *one* third of angels.

Therefore “**the dragon...and his angels...prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven**” Revelation 12:7-8 because as again today’s believer can be encouraged with respect to trustworthy relationships as King Solomon observes “**Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour...And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken**” Ecclesiastes 4:9, 12.

Note with respect to Revelation 12:9 that Dr Ruckman in his Reference Bible p 1105 lists Satan’s five castings out as follows in terms of his loss of position and authority:

From the 3rd heaven to the 2nd heaven, Ezekiel 28:16 “**By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.**” Note Isaiah 27:1 “**In that day the LORD with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent; and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea**”

From the 2nd heaven to the 1st heaven, Luke 10:18 “**And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven**”

From the 1st heaven to the earth, Revelation 12:9 “**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**”

From the earth to the bottomless pit, Revelation 20:1-3 “**And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season**”

From the bottomless pit to the lake of fire, Revelation 20:10 “**And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.**”

That “**the Devil, and Satan...deceiveth the whole world**” Revelation 12:9 is the main reason that “...**the whole world lieth in wickedness**” 1 John 5:19. Today’s believer can therefore look forward to the promise of the Second Advent and following the Second Advent that “...**I will cause ...the unclean spirit to pass out of the land**” Zechariah 13:2 - which would include the devil’s angels because although the measure of an angel is designated as “...**the measure of a man, that is, of the angel**” Revelation 21:17, angels are *spirit*-men according to Psalm 104:1, 4 “**O LORD my God, thou art very great...Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire**” with Hebrews 1:7 - and 2 Peter 3:13 “...**we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.**”

5. **Revelation 12:10-12.** The declaration of Revelation 12:10 “...**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**” denotes the End Times fulfilment of Job 25:2 “**Dominion and fear are with him, he maketh peace in his high places**” according to the Lord’s exercise of “...**All power...given unto me in heaven and in earth**” Matthew 28:18 that cleanses the heavens because “...**the stars are not pure in his sight**” Job 25:5 as is known from Genesis 1:8 “**And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day**” because the key phrase “**God saw that it was good**” Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25 or its equivalent is missing.

Revelation 12:10 is moreover “**the heavenly vision**” Acts 26:19 of the End Times culmination of Daniel 9:24 “...**to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness...**” especially insofar as the fate of “**the dragon...and his angels**” Revelation 12:7 where the devil is described as “...**Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers...**” Ezekiel 29:3 is sealed as described with respect to their further casting out in Ezekiel 31:16-18 “**I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to hell with them that descend into the pit...They also went down into hell with him unto them that be slain with the sword; and they that were his arm, that dwelt under his shadow in the midst of the heathen...yet shalt thou be brought down...unto the nether parts of the earth: thou shalt lie in the midst of the uncircumcised with them that be slain by the sword. This is Pharaoh and all his multitude, saith the Lord GOD.**”

Those developments cause rejoicing in heaven according to Revelation 12:12 “**Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them...**” after the manner that today’s believer can look forward to of Proverbs 11:10 “**When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting.**”

Insofar as “**the Devil, and Satan...was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him**” Revelation 12:9 then he can no longer be “**the accuser of our brethren...which accused them before our God day and night**” Revelation 12:10.

Being thus thwarted it is understandable that the devil in his wrath should elicit the cry “...**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**” Revelation 12:12 and seek to exercise his wrath in “**but a short time**” when “...**the dragon...gave power unto the beast...and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months**” Revelation 13:4-5 in what providentially turns out to be a forlorn hope after the manner of Daniel 11:44-45 “...**therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many...yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.**”

Noting with respect to “**our brethren**” Revelation 12:10 i.e. “**Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named**” Ephesians 3:15 accused by the devil that “...**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**” Revelation 12:11 where especially for the End Times John testifies that “...**I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands...**” Revelation 20:4 it is therefore reassuring for today’s believer that Paul, James and Peter exhort respectively:

Romans 16:19-20 “...I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil. And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen”

James 4:6-7 “...God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”

1 Peter 5:8-11 “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

6. *Revelation 12:13-17*. Revelation 12:13 shows a particular aspect of “the devil...having great wrath” Revelation 12:12 namely in his particular persecution of Israel because “...of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen” Romans 9:5.

For details of Revelation 12:14 see remarks under Revelation 12:6. However noting that “...to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place...from the face of the serpent” whilst the End Times reference must be to modern air transport the expression will remind Israel of God’s faithful care and protection of her historically in that “Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep” Psalm 121:4 and which therefore still applies of Exodus 19:4 “Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles’ wings, and brought you unto myself.”

Protection of fleeing Israel “from the face of the serpent” Revelation 12:14 is essential because as God reveals of him in Job 41:9, 14 “...shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him?...his teeth are terrible round about.”

As Revelation 12:15 shows the devil has the power to disgorge a torrent of water because “...the dragon...gave power unto the beast” Revelation 13:4 and this beast is the creature i.e. created being Behemoth of whom the Lord states in answer to Job “Behold now behemoth, which I made with thee...Behold, he drinketh up a river, and hasteth not: he trusteth that he can draw up Jordan into his mouth” Job 40:15, 23.

Revelation 12:16 is the End Times outworking of God’s promise to Israel in Isaiah 43:1-2 “But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee...”

Given that the devil has been thwarted in his pursuit of Israel into the wilderness Revelation 12:17 focuses on the devil’s wrath being directed against any of Israel’s believing remnant and their supporters located elsewhere and abiding by the End Times plan of salvation whereby those saints “...keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” as set out doctrinally in James 2:14, 17 “What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?...Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.”

Conclusion

Today’s believer in the light of the above considerations can be encouraged by the prayer of King David that applies spiritually as much today as it did then and will apply in the End Times.

“Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy. I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah” Psalm 61:1-4.

Revelation 12 Study Questions and Sample Answers

Study Questions

1. *What do Revelation 12:1-2 reveal of this woman?*
2. *What do Revelation 12:3-4 reveal about the mindset of this woman's enemy?*
3. *What do Revelation 12:5-6 reveal about God's End Times dealing with this woman and her child?*
4. *What do Revelation 12:7-9 reveal further about this woman's enemy?*
5. *What Revelation 12:10-12 reveal about the outcomes of the enemy's casting out?*
6. *What do Revelation 12:13-17 reveal about the enemy's pursuit of this woman and her offspring?*
7. *What do Revelation 12:13-17 reveal about the Lord's deliverance of this woman and her offspring?*
8. *What should be today's believer's mindset in the light of Revelation 12:1-17?*

Sample Answers

1. ***"For I have heard a voice as of a woman in travail, and the anguish as of her that bringeth forth her first child, the voice of the daughter of Zion, that bewaileth herself, that spreadeth her hands, saying, Woe is me now! for my soul is wearied because of murderers" Jeremiah 4:31.***
2. ***"...thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end" Ezekiel 35:5.***
3. ***"Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved" Romans 9:27.***
4. ***"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!" Isaiah 14:12.***
5. ***"That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness" Zephaniah 1:15.***
6. ***"The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them" Exodus 15:9.***
7. ***"Thus saith the LORD, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest" Jeremiah 31:2.***
8. ***"Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" 2 Timothy 4:17-18.***

Job 1 – Summary Thoughts

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Job* pp xii-xxx, 1-18, 440-446 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 16-17, 119, 571, 729-731, 753, 759 for particular information and detailed comment. See also Dr Ruckman's commentary *Volume I of the Book of Psalms* pp 13-14 with respect to the word "**Selah**" 2 Kings 14:7, Psalm 3:2, 4, 8 etc. 75 times, Sela Petra, the rock city of Edom:

Introduction

The Book of Job is the oldest book of the Bible and the first real book ever written, dating from about 1780 B.C., almost 600 years after Noah's flood, 2348 B.C., Job 14:11, 22:16, 28:4 and almost 300 years before the exodus from Egypt, 1491 B.C.

The author of Job is "**Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram**" Job 32:2. Elihu identifies himself as the book's author. "**They were amazed, they answered no more: they left off speaking. When I had waited, (for they spake not, but stood still, and answered no more;) I said, I will answer also my part, I also will shew mine opinion**" Job 32:15-17.

How does Elihu fit into the Book of Job? It is possible that, as an evidently mature young man, Elihu was betrothed to Job's eldest daughter Jemima, Job 42:14, noting Job 42:15 "**And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job...**" If so, then the author of the Book of Job wrote from a position of anguish similar to that of the subject of the Book. Elihu would have lost both his beloved fiancée and his upcoming brothers and sisters-in-laws, probably his closest friends, so that like Job he lost ten of his nearest and dearest in one day, Job 1:19. If this is so, then, noting the reaction of Job's friends, Job 2:12, and that "**they sat down with him upon the ground seven days and seven nights**" Job 2:13, Elihu, with "**his own sore and his own grief**" 2 Chronicles 6:29 is like Ezekiel – who lost his wife, Ezekiel 24:16-18 – "**and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days**" Ezekiel 3:15. Moreover, Elihu is like "**the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus...**" Hebrews 3:1, 12:2. Like Elihu, the Lord Jesus Christ is an author. He is the Author of "**the scripture of truth**" Daniel 10:21 "**the book of the LORD**" Isaiah 34:16. Like Elihu, the Lord Jesus Christ "**sat where they sat**" in that like Elihu, the Lord Jesus Christ endured sorrow as Isaiah says "**He is...a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief**" Isaiah 53:3. As Paul says "**For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin**" Hebrews 4:15. Therefore, as Isaiah says further "**Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows...But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed**" Isaiah 53:4-5. That should always be kept in mind when reading the scriptures. The Author understands all that the reader goes through in "**this present evil world**" Galatians 1:4 and has overcome it for us as the Lord Jesus Christ said "**In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world**" John 16:33.

The Book of Job of course focuses on the question of suffering, especially the *righteous* suffering in that "**Job...was perfect and upright**" Job 1:1. Job asks that question by asking "**Why?**" 13 times; Job 3:11, 12, 23, 7:20, 21, 9:29, 19:22, 28, 21:4, 24:1, 27:12. The answer is the way *up* to *enduring and overcoming suffering with God* is the way *down*, *repenting of self as Job did*, "**For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of**" 2 Corinthians 7:10:

"**I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes**" Job 42:5-6. See Philippians 3:8-9 below.

"From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I...Selah" Psalm 61:2, 4



Sela Petra

"a rose-red city half as old as time"

– John William Burgon

an-cientweb.org/index.php/explore/country/Arabia

Job – “great tribulation,” 1st and 2nd Advent Prophecy

Dr Ruckman states that besides addressing the righteous suffering, the Book of Job is one of the most detailed Books of scripture on the suffering of *the nation of Israel* during the “**great tribulation**” Matthew 24:21, Revelation 7:14 *after the rapture of the Church*, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18. The Lord Jesus Christ is “**the King of the Jews**” Matthew 27:11, 37, Mark 15:2, 9, 12, 26, Luke 23:3, 37, 38, John 18:33, 39, 19:19, 21 *i.e. the nation of Israel as distinct from the Church* “**And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end**” Luke 1:33 but “**there shall be great distress...and wrath upon this people**” Luke 21:23. *The Lord Jesus Christ is always “**the King of the Jews**” with a big K except during mockery, Luke 23:37. The Book of Job depicts and foretells the “**great distress...and wrath upon this people**”:

- Job means *one persecuted* as Israel will be during “**great tribulation**” Matthew 24:21.
- Job is in “**Edom...the land of Uz**” Lamentations 4:21, where Sela Petra is, the rock city.
- Israel will flee from persecution to Sela Petra “**a place of refuge**” Isaiah 4:6. See graphic.
- Satan, “**leviathan**” Job 41, persecutes Job, Job 1:9-19, 2:7-8 and Israel, Revelation 12:13-17.
- Job is on the ground 7 days and 7 nights, depicting Daniel’s 70th week, Daniel 9:27.
- The Book of Job has 42 chapters, for the 42 months of the Antichrist’s rule, Revelation 13:5.
- “**The LORD turned the captivity of Job**” Job 42:10 “**And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first**” Jeremiah 33:7. See attached study **Satan The Devil** for further insight into the adversary, 1 Peter 5:8.

In addition to revealing Job *the man*, see subtitles below, Job’s sufferings depict:

- The sufferings of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross; Job 3:24, Psalm 22:14, John 19:28.
- The torment of the lost man in hell; Job 30:20, 26-31, Matthew 13:41-43, Luke 16:23-25.
- The peril of trusting in self righteousness *not God’s*; Job 27:6, 32:1, 35:2, 40:8, Romans 10:3.

Job the Perfect Man, Job 1:1, 8

“**There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil**” Job 1:1 with Job 1:8. Job was “**perfect**” in *doing* right, *living* right, *worshipping* right and *hating evil* as God and the Bible testify. To be “**perfect**” back then was to walk *with* God, *before* God and *in obedience* to God, Genesis 6:9, 17:1 as Job did, Job 1:1, 8. Yet *note*, though “**perfect**,” Job only offered sacrifice for others *not himself*. That was *self* *i.e.* “**perfect**” does *not* mean *sinless*! Never interpret a Bible term by popular usage. Always compare scripture with scripture, 1 Corinthians 2:13. “**Blameless**” NKJV, NIVs is *not* correct because to be “**blameless**” then was to walk rightly before *men*, Genesis 44:10.

Job the Particular Man, Job 1:8

Psalm 37:37 says “**Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.**” Job was a particular *i.e.* marked man. God *marked him*, for a purpose and Job’s end was peace, though his way was wearisome Job 5:23, 24, 7:3. So it is for believers, John 16:33.

Job the Persecuted Man, Job 1:14-19, 2:7-8

Though via Satan* God persecuted Job: “**thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause**” Job 2:3. *Satan obeyed God *instantly* so *note* Matthew 21:6. Note Satan “**had the power of death**” Hebrews 2:14, Jesus has “**the keys of hell and of death**” Revelation 1:18 *now*.

Job the Patient Man, Job 1:22

“**In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly**”. Believers, note 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Job the Purified Man, Job 42:5-6

Job was *self-righteous*, Job 27:6, 32:1, 35:2, 40:8, *until he saw God*. “**...but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes**” Job 42:5-6, like Isaiah, Isaiah 6:5, like Peter, Luke 5:8. In each case, repentance brought restoration, “**thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged**” Isaiah 6:7 with Job 42:12, John 21:15-17, 19, 22. Paul, who also saw “**Jesus Christ our Lord**” 1 Corinthians 9:1 with Acts 9:3-6, states for *now* what Job foresaw *then*. “**I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...not having mine own righteousness...but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith**” Philippians 3:8-9.

SATAN THE DEVIL

“...your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:” 1 Peter 5:8



“Someone in the trench said, “THE DEVIL’S COMING!””

– German soldier, September 15th 1916, the battle of the Somme

Introduction – “The Devil’s Coming!”

Tanks were first used in action at the battle of the Somme¹ on September 15th 1916, by the British against the Germans. A German soldier spoke of his shock at the sight of the metal monsters.

“One stared and stared as if one had lost the power of one’s limbs. The monsters approached, slowly, hobbling, rolling and swaying but they approached. Nothing impeded them. A supernatural force seemed to impel them on. Someone in the trench said, “The Devil’s coming!” and the word was passed along the line like wildfire.”

Only Satan the Devil was terrible enough for these men to voice their fear. They were not wrong. God says of the Devil in Job 41:9 ***“shall not one be cast down even at the sight of him?”*** Yes, one would be. So the Christian should know about the Devil as Paul warns in 2 Corinthians 2:11 ***“Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.”*** The answers to some key questions should help believers not to be ignorant of Satan and his devices.

The Devil – Who is He?

Satan the Devil is the Christian’s main enemy as 1 Peter 5:8 calls him ***“your adversary the devil:”*** Satan is the Devil as Revelation 12:9 says ***“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan.”*** Those terms reveal the Devil as he is now². He is ***“the great dragon,” “a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads”*** Revelation 12:3. He is ***“that old serpent”*** of Genesis 3:1 and ***“leviathan”*** of Job 41:1-34 ***“a king over all the children of pride”*** and so he has ***“seven crowns upon his heads.”*** That’s why ‘gay pride’ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gay_pride is among ***“the works of the devil”*** 1 John 3:8. Isaiah 27:1 says he is ***“leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent...the dragon that is in the sea,” “the sea”*** being ***“the waters...above the firmament”*** Genesis 1:7. ***“The sea”*** is Satan’s main domain now, though he isn’t confined there. Satan was ***“Lucifer, son of the morning”*** Isaiah 14:12 and ***“the anointed cherub...perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee...therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God”*** God said in Ezekiel 28:14-16 and He did.

The Devil is a *created* being but *not* a fallen angel, he's a cast-out cherub, so only four cherubs are around the throne in Ezekiel 1:10, Revelation 4:6-7. The fifth cherub representing the aquatic and reptile creatures is missing. That's Lucifer. Ezekiel 1:10, 10:14 show that the essential face of a cherub is that of an ox, so the Devil is shown with split hooves, horns and a serpentine tail.

2 Corinthians 11:14 warns however that **"Satan...is transformed into an angel of light"**, having been Lucifer, *Lux-fero* or light bearer. Eve was not **"cast down...at the sight of him"** in Genesis 3:2 because she didn't see him as he really is. Only **"the holy scriptures"** 2 Timothy 3:15 do.

The Devil – What Does He Do?

"The devil...deceiveth the whole world" Revelation 12:9. He does so by *questioning* what God said, subtly *changing* what God said and luring the deceived **"taken captive by him at his will"** 2 Timothy 2:26 to *doubt* and then *depart* from what God said so that **"they that are unlearned and unstable wrest...the...scriptures, unto their own destruction"** 2 Peter 3:16.

Genesis 3:1 states **"the serpent...said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"** The question is pitched with a positive **"Yea"** contrary to God's ten-fold negative **"Thou shalt not"** Exodus 20:4, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 in the Ten Commandments against **"wicked ways"** and **"corrupt doings"** Ezekiel 20:44 and as though doubting God is itself **"to be desired to make one wise"** Genesis 3:6 instead of damnable because doubt **"is not of faith"** Romans 14:23. The Devil then says **"Ye"** plural instead of **"thou"** singular which is what God *actually* said because **"the man and his wife...shall be one flesh"** Genesis 2:24-25.

Genesis 3:2-3 show that **"the woman being deceived was in the transgression"** 1 Timothy 2:14. She used the plural **"We"** and **"Ye"** showing the Devil had driven a wedge between her and her husband that ends in a separation between man and God Who **"drove out the man...from the garden of Eden"** Genesis 3:23-24. The modern feminist³ movement, **"sin in the flesh"** Romans 8:3 and the **"many, which corrupt the word of God"** 2 Corinthians 2:17 all start in Genesis 3:1-3 and all are satanic. The purpose of the Devil's deceit is death. He achieved it in Eden.

That is why Paul states **"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"** Romans 5:12.

The Devil – What is His Fate?

"...the devil...was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone...and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" Revelation 20:10. **"Amen; Alleluia"** Revelation 19:4.

The Devil – What Can Defeat Him?

James 4:7 states **"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."** Submission to God means submission to all that God said. *Refusal* to submit to God led to defeat in Eden but *willingness* to submit to God gained the Lord *victory over the Devil in the wilderness*. **"And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God"** Luke 4:4. Luke 4:13 warns **"And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season"** but the Lord drove him off that time and He did each time. So can the Christian. The reason is that the Devil must do what God tells him.

Note Job 1:12, 2:7 **"So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD"** and the contexts where Satan is permitted to afflict Job. He does exactly what God tells him and no more. Noting that the Devil is **"a king over all the children of pride"** Job 41:34, note Psalm 105:14-15 **"He suffered no man to do them wrong: yea, he reproveth kings for their sakes; Saying, Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm."** Every Christian is God's anointed. **"Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God"** 2 Corinthians 1:21. *The Devil must still obey the command* **"Touch not mine anointed."** *Use it, and defeat the Devil.*

References

¹ *The Great War - The Devil is Coming* (Episode Thirteen (!)) Part 4/4
www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&feature=endscreen&v=9Wnx9MCml48

² *Mark of The Beast* Chapters 2-4, *Theological Studies* 18 pp 23-57, *The Book of Genesis* p 77 all by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 6-7, 769-771, 931, 1105

³ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feminism