

# Revelation 12

## The War of the Ages



## **The Dragon Vs. Israel**

Tim Buck



Revelation 12  
The War of the Ages: The Dragon Vs. Israel

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Symbolism Key - Revelation 12		
Symbol	Symbol Associated With	Verses
1 Pregnant Woman	Israel: Brings forth Messiah	1-2; Genesis 37:9
2 Red Dragon	Satan: War/Bloodshed	3, 9; Rev. 3:4
3 7 heads, 7 crowns	Satan's 7 Anti-Israel Empires	3; Rev. 17:10
4 10 Horns	Coming 10-King Caliphate	3; Rev. 17:12
5 Stars of Heaven	Fallen Angels (1/3)	4a
6 Child/Son	Jesus Christ	4b-5
7 Fleeing Woman	"West Bank" Jews	6; Mt. 24:15-22
8 1260 Days	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Tribulation	6, 14
9 Michael	Israel's Archangel	7-12; Dan. 12:1
10 Offspring	Tribulation Saints: Jew/Gentile	17

Revelation 12:1-6

*The Woman, the Child and the Dragon*

<sup>1</sup> A great **sign** (A symbol) of prophecy appeared in heaven: a woman (Israel) clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head ( Gen. 37:9).

<sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth (Israel waiting to bring forth Messiah).

<sup>3</sup> Then another *sign* (A symbol) appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon (Satan) with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads.

<sup>4</sup> His tail (Satan's influence) swept across the sky and dragged away a third of the stars (angels) of heaven and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman (Israel) who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born.

<sup>5</sup> She (Woman/Israel) gave birth to a son (Jesus), a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter (King-Jesus). And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne (Ascension).

- Answers**
1. Israel 2. Jacob 3. Rachel 4. 12 Tribes 5. Joseph 6. Israel 7. 13 8. bloodshed  
 9. Empires 10. Created 11. Fallen 12. Mutiny 13. Incarnation 14. Ascension  
 15. Second Coming 16. King 17. Cross 18. Middle 19. Michael 20. Accuser 21. Antichrist  
 22. Jerusalem 23. Palestine 24. Capitol 25. West Bank 26. remnant 27. military  
 28. Friday 29. Temple 30. 8<sup>th</sup> 31. Caliphate 32. Islam 33. Church

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**War of the Ages: The Dragon Vs. Israel**

Focus on the End Times

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**I. The Dragon's Nemesis: Israel - Vs. 1-2**

**A. Pregnant Woman = Symbolic of Israel - Vs. 1**

<sup>1</sup> A great sign (Symbol) of prophecy appeared in heaven: a woman (Israel) clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and crown of twelve stars on her head.

1. Clothed with the Sun = Jacob (Israel)
2. Standing on the Moon = Rachel
3. Wearing a Crown of 12 Stars = 12 Tribes
4. Parallels the Dream of Joseph - Gen. 37:9-10

Symbol	Joseph's Dream Genesis 37:9-10	Woman Revelation 12
Sun	Joseph's Father - Jacob	Jacob
Moon	Joseph's Mother - Rachel	Rachel
Stars	11 - Joseph's Brothers	Crown of 12 - 12 Tribes

<sup>9</sup> Joseph told his dream to his brothers, I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.

<sup>10</sup> His father (Jacob) rebuked him and said, What is this dream? Will your mother, I and your brothers actually come and bow down to you?

B. Woman in Travail - Throes of Childbirth - Vs. 2; (Isa. 26:17-18; 66:7-8; Micah 4:10; 5:3)

<sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth.

1. Israel longed for Messiah - The ONE who would bring Salvation
2. Her pain is caused by persecution as Satan attempts to destroy Messiah's mother

C. **Israel**: The Central Focus of the Dragon's Plans - Romans 9:4-5

1. Central in the OT (Rev. 12:4) and the End Times (Rev. 12:13)
2. Anticipate Satan's continued assault on Israel
3. This spells danger ahead for America - USA stands in Satan's way to get Israel

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## II. The Dragon's Playbook Exposed - Vs. 3-4

<sup>3</sup> Then another sign (Symbol) appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon (Satan) with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads.

### A. Red Dragon (Identification: Rev. 12:9)

1. "Dragon" appears 13 times in Revelation
2. Red - Symbolic for **bloodshed** and war - Rev. 6:4; 17:6

**Red:**  
Same color as his  
Beast Empire - 17:3

### B. 7 Heads with Seven Crowns - Satan's Royal Empires

1. 7 Heads depict Satan's 7 **Empires** - They oppose & continuously assault Israel

Why are these seven empires important? Because the strengths of these seven historic empires are going to reemerge again under the leadership of Antichrist.

2. The 7 Heads appear 4 times: Revelation 12:3, 13:1; 17:3; 17:9-11

3. Anti-Jehovah, Anti-Israel, Anti-Christ Empires

**C. The Empire Building Dragon**

His greatest prize to tempt Jesus - Mt. 4:8-9

1. Purposed to deceive mankind from the truth
2. To thwart God’s redemptive plans
3. To stand against Israel and crush her royal seed
4. The Final Empire = The Islamic Beast returns!



1. Satan operates through a series of 7 pagan empires.
2. One of those 7 empires will return in the end times.
3. The former Ottoman Empire meets the biblical criteria as the resurrected beast empire that will revive and become the empire of Antichrist.

**Interpretation Key - Satan’s Seven Empires (Rev. 17:9-11)**

*<sup>9</sup> Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains (Empires) on which the woman sits, <sup>10</sup> and they are seven kings (Empires); five (Empires) have fallen, one is (Rome: The empire when John wrote Revelation), the other has not yet come; when he comes, he must remain a while.*

*<sup>11</sup> The beast which was and is not (Ottoman), is himself also the eighth King (Antichrist) and is of the seventh, and he goes to destruction.*

1. Egypt	
2. Assyria	“5 Empires are fallen”
3. Babylon	
4. Medo-Persia	
5. Greece	
6. Rome	“one is”
7. Islam/Ottoman	“one is yet to come”
8. Turkey-led Caliphate	

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### III. The Dragon's Influence - Rev. 12:4a - "Great" Red Dragon

*4 His tail (Influence) swept across the sky and dragged away a third of the stars (angels)*

A. A Created Angel - Ezek. 28:15

B. A Fallen Angel - Isa. 14:12-13, Ezek. 28; Lk. 10:18-19

C. Lucifer's Mutiny - Rev. 12:4a

God permitted Satan's fall, not because he was helpless to stop it, but because he had a purpose for it.

1. 1/3 of God's Angels rebelled and followed Satan - "a third of the stars"

2. Some were chained after the wickedness (Gen. 6:1-3) that led to Noah's Flood

*6 The angels who rebelled and did not keep their place, these he has kept in darkness, bound in chains for judgment on the great Day. (Jude 6)*

*For God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment. (2 Pet. 2:4)*

3. Some will be paroled for 5 months to torment mankind - Rev. 9:1-12

4. Satan's Demonic Hierarchy - Eph. 6:12

*12 We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

#### Kingdom of Darkness

Rankings	Influence	Troop Assignments
1 Principalities	Ruler over Israel	
2 Powers	Rulers over global regions/M.E.	Satan has organized his troops by assigning a fallen angel to every country and province.
3 Rulers of Darkness	Rulers over Nations - Daniel 10	
4 Hosts of Wickedness	Rulers over Cities and Media	
	Rulers over Schools, Universities	
	Rulers over Religious Systems	

#### D. Satan's Playbook - The Truth about Demons

1. False religions come from demonic plans - Deut. 32:17; 1 Cor. 10:20; Ps. 106:37

2. Demons are real (19 out of 27 NT Books) Often encountered by Jesus

3. Demons can't possess Christians - *Greater is he who is in you...* (1 Jn. 4:4)

4. Demons Can't Hurt or Kill you - Demons can't Read your Mind

IV. The Dragon Assaults Israel - Lurking in front of the Woman (Israel) - Vs. 4b

**The Dragon's Seed of Hatred**

**The Family line of Ishmael-Essau-Edom-Amalek-Haman-Herod-Mohammad & Antichrist have made the Jewish people pay a heavy price.**

- 1 Pharaoh - Murdered Jewish boys - Ex. 1:16
- 2 Amalakites - War with Israel - Ex. 17:8-16
- 3 Athaliah: Destroy Davidic line - 2 Kgs. 11:1-3
- 4 Nebuchadnezzar: Bow or die - Dan. 3
- 5 Attempted Genocide by Haman - Esther 5
- 6 Antiochus: Trampled down Israel - Dan. 8; 11
- 7 Herod - Murdered Jewish baby boys - Mt. 2
- 8 Rome (70 AD) - Killed 1-2 million Jews
- 9 Hitler - Holocaust killed 6 million Jews

**End Time Assault from Islam**

- 10 PLO-Husseini-Arafat-Abbas - Terror, Intifada
- 11 Hamas - Hurls 1000's of rockets from Gaza
- 12 Hezbollah - 100,000 rockets pointed at Israel
- 13 UN - Anti-Israel, Divide Israel & Jerusalem
- 14 Ayatollah - Nuclear weapons for Israel
- 15 Erdogan/Turkey - "Jerusalem is ours"

- 16 Antichrist - Final Assault on Israel - **Rev. 12:13**

*The dragon stood in front of the woman (Israel) who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child (Jesus) the moment he was born.  
Rev. 12:4b*

*Your eternal hatred for the people of Israel led you to butcher them when they were helpless.*

**Ezek. 35:5**

*<sup>13</sup> When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman (Israel) who had given birth to the male child. Rev. 12:13*

*His (Antichrist) power  
will be mighty.  
He will destroy to an  
extraordinary degree,  
He will destroy mighty  
men and the holy people  
(Israel). Dan. 8:24*

V. The Woman Delivers the Promised Son - Vs. 5

*<sup>5</sup> She (Woman/Israel) gave birth to a son (Jesus), a male child,  
who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter (King-Jesus).  
And her child was snatched up to God (Ascension) and to his throne.*

*The eternal Son of God  
had to become man so  
the offspring of the  
woman could crush the  
serpent's head.  
Gen. 3:15*

Triumph of Christ in One Verse

A. His Incarnation - *"She bore a male child"*

1. Jesus was Jewish (Mt.1:1; 2 Tim.2:8) *"The lion of the tribe of Judah"*- Rev. 12:5
2. Despite Satan's efforts, Jesus' birth came as predicted - Isa.7:14; 9:6; Micah 5:2
3. God's timing is always perfect - Gal. 4:4

B. His Ascension (Rapture) *"Her Child was caught up (Snatched) to God and His Throne"*

C. His Second Coming - *"He will rule the nations"*

D. His Reign as King of Kings - *"He will rule the nations with a rod of iron"*

E. Jesus Defeated Satan by the Cross



*I have overcome the world. John 16:33*

*<sup>15</sup> God disarmed rulers and authorities putting them to open shame triumphing over them. Col. 2:15*

*<sup>8</sup>The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 1 Jn. 3:8*

In the end, Satan serves to magnify the power, wisdom, love, grace, mercy, patience, and wrath of Jesus Christ.

## VI. War in Heaven (Rev. 12:7-12) Satan Thrown Out

*<sup>7</sup> Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.*

*<sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.*

*<sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*

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#### A. Satan's Last Stand - His end-time battle for Supremacy

1. Antichrist's Tribulation wars on earth find their counterpart in heaven

2. War breaks out in the heavenlies in the **Middle** of the Tribulation

Revelation 11-13 = Events of the Mid-Point of the Tribulation to the end

42 Months = 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Tribulation: 11:2; 12:6; 13:5

#### B. Something regarding the State of Israel triggers this epic battle in heaven?

Suggestions: Death of the 2 Witnesses? Abomination of Israel's Temple? West Bank Jews?

1. **Michael** - God's Prince over Israel - Dan. 12:1

*Michael and his angels fought the dragon, the dragon and his angels fought back*

2. Imagine the heavenlies lit up with the sights and sounds of spiritual warfare!

#### C. Satan's Access to Heaven ends abruptly - vs. 10

*<sup>10</sup> The accuser of our brethren, who accuses them before God day and night, is cast down*

1. Satan can travel between heaven and earth today

Satan's princes prohibited Gabriel from reaching Daniel - Dan. 10:13

2. He gathers gossip/dirt on believers - "Accuser of the Brethren"

3. Jesus steps in - Holy Advocate - 1 Jn. 2:1

*If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous One*

#### **D. Satan and Demons confined to Earth - 3 ½ years (2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Tribulation)**

a. Satan limited and angry (12:12) "*He knows his time is short*"

b. Israel's worst holocaust (12:13) 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Tribulation

*<sup>13</sup> When the dragon was hurled down, he pursued the woman (Israel)*

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### **VII. West Bank Invasion (Rev. 12:6, 13) Great Tribulation Begins**

#### **A. Antichrist breaks 7-Year Covenant (Dan.9:27) and the Two-State Agreement**

Q - Why is the Tribulation for 7 years? (Why not 9 years?)

A - Israel given 7 years to transition out of the West Bank - "Occupied Land"

Problem: Satan can't wait 7 years - He knows that's when the Second Coming occurs

Solution: After his eviction from heaven, Satan invades at mid-point of Trib.

## B. Islamic Invasion of Jerusalem

### 1. Mid-Point of the Tribulation - Dan. 11:45

*<sup>45</sup> He (Antichrist) will pitch his royal palace between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. (Headquarters on Temple Mount: E. Jerusalem)*

### 2. Antichrist invades the West Bank

#### Terms of the 2-State Plan

- a. West Bank = State of Palestine
- b. East Jerusalem = Capitol

### 3. Understanding Modern Jerusalem

- a. Modern West Jerusalem - Belongs to Israel

Knesset Building & “Government Hill”  
Trump: US Embassy (From Tel Aviv)

- b. East Jerusalem = Captured by Israel 1967

“Old City” - David’s Capitol - Temple Mount  
Surrounded by ancient walls and gates



## C. Jesus Warns of this West Bank Invasion - Mt. 24:15-21

1. East Jerusalem Captured - Mt. 24:15; Dan. 9:27; 2 Thess. 2:4

*<sup>15</sup> When you see standing in the holy place (Temple Mount) the abomination that causes desolation, spoken of by Daniel (Islam has captured the Temple)*

2. West Bank Captured - Falls to Antichrist - Mt. 24:16-21

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## D. God Shows Up - Miraculous Rescue!

### He Rescues the Remnant of West Bank Jews - Rev. 12:6

*<sup>6</sup> The woman (West Bank Jews) fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days (3 ½ years).*

1. Is America in the Bible? Ex. 19:4 - “(God) I bore you on Eagles’ Wings”

Israel Protected for 3 ½ years by Eagles’ Wings - Rev. 12:14

*14 The woman was given the two wings of a **great eagle**, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the wilderness, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent’s reach.*

2. Antichrist sends his **military** after the fleeing remnant - Rev. 12:15-16

*15 Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river (military attack), to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent.*

*16 But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.*

(Possibly the 6<sup>th</sup> Seal Earthquake - Rev. 6:12-17)

## VIII. The Dragon goes after the Saints - Rev. 12:17

*17 Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring (Saints: Jew and Gentile) those who keep God’s commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus.*

### A. Turn of Events - Antichrist Strengthened

1. Two Witnesses murdered - Rev. 11:7
2. Mecca, Saudi Arabia destroyed in one day - Rev. 18:7-8
3. Antichrist: Islam’s Messiah & Caliph becomes firebrand of blasphemy

**Friday** prayers reach fever pitch - Dan. 7:7,11,20, 25 Rev. 13:5

4. Antichrist - Now Seated in Israel’s **Temple** - 2 Thess. 2:4

*4 (Antichrist) opposes and exalts himself over every god or object of worship, he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God.*

5. The False Prophet: Genocidal Campaign to support Antichrist - Rev.13:11-18

### B. The Beast: Satan’s **8<sup>th</sup>** Empire - Weapon of Persecution - Rev. 12:17-13:1

7 Heads and 10 Horns

*17 The dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war on her offspring...*

**The Dragon calls up the Beast**

*1 The dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name (Islam).*



Dragon (Revelation 12)



Beast (Revelation 13)

1. The Beast = The coming Islamic Caliphate, ruled by Antichrist
2. Revived Islamic Empire - Satan's tool for persecution of Jews and Christians
3. Sign: The global rise of Islamic terrorism is no accident
4. Closing in: We are getting close to the arrival of Tribulation

**C. Islam - Killing saints for Allah: The deadly religious system of Antichrist**

False religion has killed millions of believers over the centuries but the final false religious system of Islam will be far more deadly than any that preceded it.

*6 I saw the woman (Harlot/Islam), drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. Rev. 17:6*

**D. In God's sovereign plan, Antichrist is allowed to kill millions of Christians**

(Rev. 6:9-11; 11:7; 12:17; Dan. 7:23-25; 8:25; 9:27; 11:38; 12:10; Mt. 24:16-22)

**E. Be thankful - The Church will not go through the Tribulation - Rev. 3:10**

*10 Since you kept my command to endure patiently, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.*

*20 He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly."  
Amen. Even so, come Lord Jesus. Rev. 22:20*

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