

I. Intro and Structure (Rev. 12-14)

- A. This is the third angelic explanation or parenthetical section of the book (Rev. 12-14). This section is focused upon the fierce war in the spirit between Satan and God's people leading up to the return of Jesus. This section answers why God's wrath is so severe and requires replacing all the governments on earth. Satan and the Antichrist will violently attack God's people (Rev. 12-13). Jesus will help the saints (Rev. 14).
- B. This angelic explanation covers the greatest amount of time, reaching all the way back into eternity past, when during Satan's rebellion, he drew 1/3 of the angels into his rebellion of darkness and then looks forward to the end of the Great Tribulation at the "great winepress of the wrath of God" during the seventh bowl, where God's wrath is poured out full strength upon the Antichrist and his followers who violently confronted God's purpose, plan and people. (Rev. 12:4, 13, 14:17-20)
1. (Revelation 12) describes Satan's war in the heavens against Michael and his angels and Satan's rage being turned full strength upon God's people.
 2. (Revelation 13) describes the Antichrist's war on earth against Israel and the Church.
 3. (Revelation 14) describes Jesus' help given to the Church ensuring our victory in 7 visions.
- C. The 7 main symbols in the book of Revelation are all found in this angelic explanation (Rev. 12-14).
1. Dragon: is always symbolic of Satan (Rev. 12:3, 4, 7, 9, 13, 16, 17; 13:2, 4; 16:13; 20:2).
 2. Beast: the Antichrist, called the "Beast" 36x (Rev. 13; 14:9-11; 17:3-17; 19:19-21; 20:4, 10).
 3. Another Beast: the False Prophet (Rev. 13:11-17; 16:13; 19:20; 20:10).
 4. Seven Heads: 7 historical world empires that persecuted Israel with combined strength (Rev. 13:1-2).

5. Ten Horns: 10-nation league (Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7, 20, 24; 11:36-45; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16).
6. Harlot Babylon: demonic global religious and economic system (Isa. 13-14; Jer. 50-51; Rev. 17-18).
7. Woman with Male-Child: the faithful remnant of ethnic Israel “giving birth” to Jesus, the Male-Child. (Is. 54:1-6; Jer. 3:20; Ez. 16:8-14, Hos. 2:19-20)

II. The History of the Great War (Rev. 12:1-6)

A. At the beginning of this parenthetical section, the Lord is revealing to John the central reason of this great supernatural conflict. The “dragon” (Satan), his counterfeit kingdom, and those demonic forces who stand with him have set themselves to destroy woman and her seed to maintain his power base on the earth. (Gen. 3:15)

1. The first sign, “the woman”, in view of Old Testament imagery, I believe seems to symbolize the nation of Israel. There are many figurative references to Israel as a "travailing" woman pregnant and in labor in the Old Testament. She (Israel) eventually gave birth to Christ. In Joseph’s dream, the "sun" corresponds to Jacob, the "moon" to Rachel, and the "12 stars" to Israel's 12 sons. (Gen. 37:9-11, 21:12; Isa. 26:17-18, 54:1-6, 60:1-3,20; Jer. 3:20, 4:31, 13:21; Ezek. 16:8-14; Hos. 2:19-20; Mic 4:10, 5:3)
 - a) Many view this labor pain and the bringing forth of the male child as the first coming of Jesus. I believe the first coming is only be a partial understanding and fulfillment of this vision. In Isaiah, this faithful remnant of Israel will go through great labor pain and bring forth the Messianic age. (Is. 66:5-16; Lk. 13:35; Rom. 11)
2. The second sign is a “great, fiery red dragon.” He is the opponent of the woman and her child. It is revealed in (Rev. 12:9) this dragon is Satan. The “seven heads” are seven beastly empires that were established by Satan to oppose the woman. The 10 horns are a future 10-nation confederation of ten kings who rule simultaneously over their own nation, while coming into enthusiastic agreement or partnership together under the Antichrist’s authority (Dan. 2:41-42; 7:7, 20, 24; 11:36-45; Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16).

3. Third of the stars – I believe this event refers to the original rebellion of Satan against God causing him to lose his authority and role in God’s kingdom. This is where the idea that 1/3 of the angels God created fell along with Satan when he initially rebelled. (Jude 6; 2 Pet. 2:4)
 4. Stood to devour the child - The anticipated event, the arrival of the “Seed” of the woman, finds Satan waiting with his fiery rage to devour the child. This rage to destroy Jesus manifests through Herod, those who seek to kill Him because of His message, and the leadership of Rome and Israel who ultimately crucify Him in an attempt to terminate His plan. (Mat. 2:16-18, 12:14; Lk 22:2; Jhn. 11:53)
 5. Rightful ruler - This child is the rightful King destined to rule which is the root of this great heavenly war. He will rule “with a rod of iron”, which signifies a strict or forceful rule in a manner that will be uncompromising and unshakable. He will establish righteousness and remove all that opposes His Father. Before this destiny was manifest in fullness this child was caught up to God after His resurrection. (Ps. 2, Rev. 19:15)
- B. I believe it’s very important to see the word “then” used in (Rev. 12:6) as an indicator of the shift in season for Israel. This shift occurs after the child was caught up to heaven. I believe that the “then” correlates with the season put forth by Jesus in speaking of the time Israelis were to flee their city from the antichrist. This also lines up with the progressive seasons of God’s dealings with the Jews and the city of Jerusalem in Daniel’s 70 weeks prophecy. (Dan. 12:1-3; Mat. 24:15-21)
6. She fled into the wilderness - She will flee the great trouble that befalls Israel into the “wilderness of the nations”, where she will encounter gentile believers who will be set into place in that hour to nourish her for 3 ½ years. I believe this will be the fullness of the reality set forth in prophetic scriptures concerning Jesus bringing the Jew and the Gentile together in love and unity. (Ex. 19:4; Ps. 107; Is. 40; Jer. 31:2-3; Hos. 2:14-15; Mat. 24:15-21, Rom. 11, Song 8:5)

“And I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will plead my case with you face to face. Just as I pleaded my case with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will plead my case with you,” says the Lord God. “I will make you pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of covenant; I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord.” (Ez. 20:36-38)

Book of Revelation Study (Session 22)
The Conflict of the Ages

Sunday March, 18th 2018
(Rev. 12:1-17)

C. Prophetic History in this Reality

1992 - A friend of a member of the church family went to Israel and was told by many prophetic people there (mostly Messianic Jews) that they had been receiving words, dreams, and visions from the Lord regarding “escape routes” around the world. She saw some of these maps of routes that had been drawn up. She said before this she had never heard of Pagosa Springs, but on one of the maps she saw the name. There is coming a time a great upheaval in this nation and around the world and many will seek refuge in “cities of refuge” established by the Lord to protect his people. She was told there would be children, young people, Jews, and peoples from every nation taking refuge in cities set apart by God. Pagosa Springs will be one of those cities.

2004 - Name changed to Restoration Fellowship (All that was lost, neglected, forgotten, or stolen). First Cleansing Stream retreat in Pagosa. Really strong sense to pray for the “Peace of Jerusalem” and we displayed the Palestinian and Israeli flag next to each other as a prophetic symbol of the promise of God. Isaac and Ishmael coming together.

2009 - “Vision of Angel Army” God has anointed Restoration Fellowship to be a hub over this city and Pagosa the hub between the San Luis Valley and Cortez. God has placed you to be a "safe place," a "place of refuge," and as an "underground railroad" depot or weigh station. The Lord stressed how important it is to prepare for tough times ahead. The Lord is going to raise R.F. up as forerunners, a strong and fervent Zionist friend of Israel and Jews to help lead the church in their city into its destiny.

2012 - City of Refuge for Israel week (July 27th)— The Lord uses the prayer room leadership and 3 different Individuals from different places and ministries to speak to us and confirm that Pagosa is to be a city of Refuge for Israel.

July 30th 2012 - The Lord is preparing an underground railroad for persecuted Jews and other distressed nations. Pagosa Springs and the surrounding area will be part of this network of areas of Refuge. At the center of every area of refuge must be a Prayer Room. A place dedicated to personal intimacy with Jesus. The prayer room will be the place where the city receives insight from the Lord during the time of great crisis that is coming. People will be in great need of emotional, spiritual, and physical healing and rest.

October 15th 2017 – Restoration Fellowship leadership launches the “Area of Refuge Initiative” consisting of 3 pillars. Standing with Israel, Physical Preparedness, and Spiritual Preparedness.