

“Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcome him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.” – Revelation 12:10-11

Overview:

We find ourselves in our study of Revelation just after the seventh trumpet had sounded but before the wrath of the seven bowl judgments that will be poured out on the earth. Revelation 12 describes a war going on between Satan and God where Satan is out to try and destroy God's plan of salvation by any means possible. At the end of Rev 12:9, we saw that Satan was cast to the earth. John hears a loud voice from heaven giving praise to God for salvation, strength, kingdom of God, and the power of Christ's coming because, the accuser of our brethren has been cast down.

Satan, the father of lies, up until this point of time, have been accusing us day and night before God and now God removes Satan's access. Victory is won by the blood of the Lamb, our testimony, and not loving our lives to the death. Our rebirth in Christ, sharing what Jesus has done for us, and surrendering to the power of God allows us to overcome the attacks of Satan. Because Satan was tossed out of heaven to the earth, there is rejoicing in heaven but “woe” to the inhabitants of the earth.

Satan, knowing his time is short, turns his full attention on the Woman, a picture of Israel and seeks to destroy her. The last 3 ½ years of the tribulation, Israel finds protection in the wilderness. God has prepared a place in the wilderness for Israel to live and supernaturally God protects them and provides for their needs much like He did during the time of the exodus from Egypt. This only enrages Satan and he turns his attention to the rest of the woman's offspring who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

References:

After the sounding of the 7th trumpet before the wrath of the 7 bowl judgments poured out – Hebrews 12:26-27

Rev 12:10 – Our brethren, those martyred during the Tribulation – Rev 6:9-11, 7:14

Rev 12:10 – Manner of operation – day and night – Ephesians 6:16

Rev 12:12 – Perspective on the cross – 2 Corinthians 2:14-16

Rev 12:13 – Satan cast to the earth – Luke 10:18-20

Rev 12:14 – Wings of an eagle – Exodus 19:4; Deuteronomy 32:9-12

Rev 12:14 – Wilderness, possibly Petra in Jordan – Isaiah 16:1-5; Zechariah 13:8-9; Matthew 24:16-22

Rev 12:14 – Time and times and half a time, 3 ½ years – Abomination of desolation – Matthew 24:16; anti-Christ demanding worship – 2 Thessalonians 2:4,9-11

Rev 12:15 – Like a flood – lies – John 8:44; Armies of men – Isaiah 8:7-10, 59:19

Rev 12:16 – Earth helped the woman – Colossians 1:16; Exodus 14:21-22; Jonah 1:4-17; Numbers 16:28-33

Rev 12:17 – War with rest of her offspring – Rev 7:3, 9:4; John 1:12-13; Rev 13:15

Questions:

* According to Rev 12:11, how is Satan overcome?

* Take a few minutes and prayerfully write out your testimony what Jesus has done for you.

Additional Study:

Rev. 12:10

* Salvation: (*soteria*) – salvation, deliverance

* Strength: (*dunamis*) – power, strength, capacity to act

* Power of His Christ: (*exousia*) – authority, jurisdiction to rule, freedom to act here – of His Christ, Messiah, Anointed One

* Accuser – (*kategōr*) ESV; (*katēgoros*) NKJV – Satan

Rev. 12:12

* Rejoice – (*euphrainō*) – celebrate, be filled with joy

* Woe – inhabitants of the earth – (*ouai*) horror, terror

Rev. 12:13

* Persecute: (*diōkō*) – to systematically oppress and harass, with intense effort Satan hates Israel

Rev. 12:14

* Wilderness: (*emeros*) – isolated, lonely, forsaken place

* Nourished: (*trephō*) – to give necessary nourishment, what is necessary to survive, long term provision

* From the presence – from (*apo*) – away from

Rev. 12:15

* Serpent spewed (*ballō*) – threw

* Like a flood (*potamos*) – river

* Carried away by the flood (*pota-mo-PHRE-tos*) – swept away by a river

Rev. 12:17

* Enraged (*orgizo*) – to be full of wrath