

Dragon Slaying 101”
The Revelation of Jesus Christ—Part 19
Revelation 12:1-17

A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

Revelation 12:1-6

1. What are signs and how do you interpret them?

- **Definition:** “Sign” indicates a mark or symbol that carries a special meaning or points to something beyond it.
- John’s vision contains symbolic characters that point to real people or events in history—past as well as future.
- Identifying the characters and events:

The child = Jesus

The woman = Believing Israel

The red dragon = Satan and demons working through wicked world powers

“The great snatch” = The ascension of Christ or the rapture of Christ’s Church

- Throughout history, the Lord and His Church have been regarded as one.

He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied.

Acts 9:4-5

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:27

2. What are the results of war in heaven?

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. 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.

Revelation 12:7-9

- Michael and his armies = The Archangel Michael, guardian of Israel, who battles demonic forces for God's people.

But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.

Daniel 10:13

“At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people-- everyone whose name is found written in the book-- will be delivered.”

Daniel 12:1

- Satan is kicked out of heaven.
- Satan is confined to the earth.

3. How do you slay a dragon?

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short."

Revelation 12:10-12

Dragon Slaying in 3 Steps:

Step #1—Trust in the blood of Jesus Christ.

Step #2—Share your testimony.

Step #3—Put everything you are and have on the altar of Jesus Christ.

(Romans 12:1-2)

4. The dragon's rampage on earth.

When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach. Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring— those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus...

Revelation 12:13-13:1

Life Response: How is your faith? How is your hope? How is your love? Every day that goes by brings the dragon closer to his ultimate defeat. Armed with the weapons of faith, hope and love, we are part of God's army, sharing in His victory over Satan. The enemy is growing more angry even now. But, God's triumph over Satan is coming in the not too distant future.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Ephesians 6:12-13

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. James 4:7-8

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4